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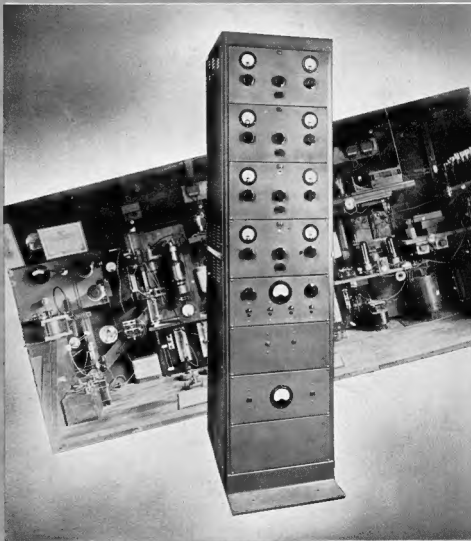
# *Amateur Radio*

VICTORIAN  
DIVISION'S  
**25<sup>TH</sup>**  
ANNIVERSARY

For the Experimenter  
and Radio Enthusiast

**9D.**

Registered at the G.P.O., Melbourne, for  
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813, 60/- each. 832, 50/- each.

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**EDITORIAL****Victorian Division's 25th Anniversary**

This number of "Amateur Radio" marks the 25th Anniversary of the Victorian Division of the Wireless Institute of Australia. On behalf of this Division, I wish to thank the Federal Executive of our Institute for affording me the privilege of writing this editorial.

In thanking Federal Executive I am reminded of changes which have occurred since 1st December, 1925, when our Victorian Division was incorporated under the Companies Act. In the next few years various commercial journals became in turn the official organ of the Wireless Institute of Australia. October, 1933, saw the first issue of "Amateur Radio," as the official organ of the Victorian Division and of the Royal Air Force Wireless Reserve. The editorial by the President, the late George Thompson, claimed approximately 300 members and three affiliated clubs for Victoria. The Victorian Railways Institute Wireless Club was one of these, as it is today. That issue contained an article by Max Howden, VK3BQ, appropriately entitled "Simple Crystal Control." It was a veritable milestone in Amateur Radio. In November, 1933, the editorial stated that "we have been honoured and are proud to state that this journal is now recognised by the Federal Headquarters as the official organ of the Wireless Institute of Australia."

Subscribers to the Memorandum of Association formally incorporating the Victorian Division of the Wireless Institute of Australia were Maxwell Howden, the late R. M. Dalton, B. J. Masters, Bruce Hardie, and the late K. Love. To these men and others of that time, Victorian Division owes a good deal. We have

benefitted not only from their foresight in organisation, but also from their technical ability in the field of Amateur Radio. Their success in the Trans-Pacific Tests of 1923 and in the first transmission of speech to England in 1924 were steps in a series of remarkable developments.

In those 25 years, Amateur Radio has achieved much. The Victorian Division, now consisting of 720 members, is proud that its members have contributed to those achievements, and it is a loyal section of the parent Australian organisation now consisting of 2500 members.

Yes, those 25 years have seen great things in Amateur Radio in our portion of the Ham world, but we must now look forward. What are the grounds for allocation of portion of modern communication channels for the exclusive use of our section of the community, mainly as a hobby? In present times it is understandable that increasing difficulty is experienced by any section in alienating community property for exclusive use of that particular section. Amateur Radio must feel the affect of this trend. What grounds have we to make special claims and what have we to offer in return?

First to mind is the service of Amateur Radio in emergencies. October issue of this magazine contained a letter of thanks to Amateur operators from the Post Master-General for their help in the flood peril in New South Wales. Members will recall similar instances where Amateur Radio has been privileged and able to afford help to the community, and the recent letter from the P.M.G. is very pleasing and reassuring.

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## Xmas Bargains For The Radio Enthusiast



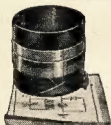
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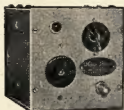
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# "THE QUIZMASTER"

BY C. A. CULLINAN,\* VK7XW

"Have your signals that smooth velvety sound that so many young receivers like to caress?"

"Does your beam put out more signal to the rear than the front?"

"Are you having trouble winding coils for that new receiver?"

"If so, friends, listen closely whilst I tell you about utopia. For nothing down and a quid a week for life you can buy . . ." Hold on, looks as though I'm writing a "commercial," so let's get down to business or rather the "Quizmaster" for this little gadget will give you the answer to many of your problems—in Amateur Radio of course.

So we present "The Quizmaster," a multi-purpose instrument with a host of uses.

Fundamentally "The Quizmaster" comprises a meter, a tuned circuit and a power supply that can be switched to any one of the valves to give a—

- Grid Dip Oscillator.
- Good Phone Monitor.
- Field Intensity Meter.

By-products of these functions (as the atomic boys say) enable "The Quizmaster" to be used as a rough checking frequency meter and a good over-modulation monitor as well as many other functions.

Reference to the circuit shows that as a grid dip oscillator, the tuned circuit is connected to a 6V6G oscillator valve, the meter is inserted in the grid circuit and plate voltage is obtained from a regulated supply using a VR150/30.

In the second switch position another 6SN7 is brought into use. The first half of this valve is employed as a diode and is followed by an audio amplifier. The meter is connected into the diode circuit and is used to check over-modulation, as a movement of the meter during modulation indicates carrier shift.

When the selector switch is moved to the third position, a 6SN7 is substituted for the 6V6G oscillator. This 6SN7 acts as a plate detector driving a vacuum tube voltmeter, the meter being connected to the second half of the 6SN7.

"The Quizmaster" is housed in a small metal cabinet, the front panel of which contains the various controls, also a terminal and a co-ax connector.

It will be observed that the coil has a small primary coil, one end of which is earthed, the other end being brought out to the terminal and co-ax connector just mentioned.

The purpose of this duplication is that when used as a monitor a piece of rigid wire can be connected to the terminal in the fashion of a small vertical antenna. On the other hand, when used as a grid dip oscillator, a low impedance link circuit is employed via the co-ax connector.

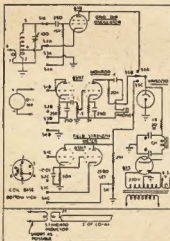
The parts list indicates that the switch must be of the non-shorting type—that is does not short between contacts when being turned. If a shorting type of switch is used, the meter will get banged about during switching unless some means is taken to remove the h.t. voltage.

\* 12 Montrose Place, Launceston, Tas.

## GRID DIP OSCILLATOR

For use as a grid dip oscillator, the instrument must be calibrated and the same can be done in any convenient manner. As "The Quizmaster" is not a precision frequency meter, no attempt has been made to use temperature compensation, etc. However, for grid dip purposes its calibration is sufficiently accurate for Amateur needs—likewise it can be used for approximate frequency measurements. A two-turn coupling coil at the end of a length of co-ax cable or something similar makes a simple job of coupling the oscillator to a tuned circuit under examination.

Care must be taken to avoid mistakes in the dip because of this coupling loop; also the amount of the dip will not be as great as though coupling were made to the main coil. However the link enables one to leave "The Quizmaster" at a suitable spot on the bench instead of holding it by hand.



CH.—Rola 6 hy. choke, 430 ohms.  
Switch (S1, S2, S3, S4, S5)—Five pole, three position four bank non-short-circuiting between contacts.

In construction use a cabinet with a hinged lid and arrange the coil so that coupling can be made to it through the open lid to take care of those few odd occasions when the link does not give sufficient dip.

It is obvious that if "The Quizmaster" has been calibrated in terms of frequency, then the frequency of any resonant circuit within its range can be determined.

On the other hand, if one cares to go to the trouble "The Quizmaster" can also be calibrated in terms of capacity and inductance. This is done firstly by using a fixed condenser of known value at the end of the transmission line and placing across it an inductance, then determining the resonant frequency of the combination. From this the value of the inductance can be calculated and marked on the dial. Other coils are

substituted and the process repeated until calibration is complete. Then the process can be revised by using one of the now known values of inductance and substituting various values of capacity to obtain a capacity calibration.

In use, if it is desired to check the value of a condenser, the correct size of "standard inductor" is connected, the unknown condenser is also connected and the capacity read off the dial when the grid dip occurs.

The reverse procedure is used to find the value of an unknown inductance. This is the principle of many of the "inductance-capacity" checkers on the American radio service market. It must be realised that in many cases condensers can be checked in position in a receiver without disconnecting them.

The grid dip oscillator can be used to check aerial systems, but this must be done with discretion as, when so used, "The Quizmaster" is a small transmitter and needless QRM can be created.

## PHONE MONITOR

The usual form of station phone monitor consists of a single diode and a pair of headphones, but this system has its drawbacks which "The Quizmaster" removes. Due to the audio amplifier, the coupling to the transmitter is not so critical and a volume control is a convenient method of controlling the volume. In this circuit the meter is in the diode circuit and the coupling to the transmitter should be arranged to give a reasonable deflection on the meter.

During modulation with normal a.m. methods, no movement of this meter should be noticeable. If there is, it will indicate carrier shift which is very undesirable. Carrier shift can be caused by many things, but the two most common causes are over-modulation and poor power supply regulation.

It is not claimed that this monitor will show up all phone faults—hum may not show up due to the poor low frequency response of most headphones, but it will be found more than adequate for the majority of phone monitoring systems, particularly if you have a good recording system to play back to yourself.

## FIELD INTENSITY METER

As a field strength meter a small vertical or other aerial is connected to the front panel terminal and the tuned circuit tuned to resonance at the operating frequency. "The Quizmaster" is set up some distance away from the transmitting aerial, and with the transmitter off, the "set zero" knob is adjusted for "0" reading on meter. With the transmitter on, "The Quizmaster" is tuned in exactly and if the meter pointer is hard over, the pick-up aerial is reduced until a desirable reading is obtained. Then without altering "The Quizmaster" or its aerial in any way, any alterations to the main aerial, feeders, coupling and transmitter adjustments will be shown on the meter.

The meter may be calibrated in the following manner. The meter is firstly adjusted to read exactly zero, then the



transmitter is turned on and the pick-up aerial is adjusted to give exactly full scale deflection on the meter, making sure "The Quizmaster" is properly tuned to resonance. Next reduce the power input to the transmitter by exactly half and note "The Quizmaster's" reading. This represents a reduction in signal strength of 3 db. Again reduce power input by half and read the meter. This is another reduction of 3 db or a total of 6 db from full scale reading. The process can be repeated as far as desired.

Alternative calibration can be made by setting the transmitter on one-quarter power and adjusting "The Quizmaster" pick-up aerial to give half scale reading. If then power is doubled, the new meter reading will be + 3 db; and if again doubled it will then be + 6 db. Likewise powers below quarter power can be used to get drops in strength. Of course in the first case if you want to read + or - against half scale, it's only a matter of labelling the meter case correctly.

It must be remembered that this calibration is arbitrary. If you take the meter along to a friend's shack and he uses different power or a different aerial or you use a different pick-up aerial, you may get more or less indication on the meter, but if you adjust the pick-up aerial so you get full scale deflection irrespective of power, then the meter will read correctly in decibels change. The meter cannot be calibrated in absolute units of field strength, but only

in change in relative strengths and after all, that's what Hams are most interested in with aerial systems.

In conclusion, "The Quizmaster" is one instrument that remains "put" for its uses are legion and this article merely covers a brief outline of its most important uses towards better Ham Radio.

#### APPENDIX

The 20 watt resistor in the h.t. B plus line is adjusted so that with either 6SN7 switched in, the current flowing in the VR150/30 is between 25 and 30 Ma., but not over 30 Ma. When the 6V6G is switched in the VR150/30's current will drop to about 5 Ma. The voltage at the output of the VR150/30 will remain at 150 volts.

Due to changes in input impedance between the different circuits, the frequency calibration of the grid dip oscillator will not hold for the other two functions.

The grid dip circuit can also be used as a wavemeter if a switch is arranged to remove the h.t. from the 6V6G, but the field strength position is much more satisfactory.

Standard Inductor No. 1: One open turn of 1/32" thick brass, 2" diameter by 1" wide. This is tightly coupled to the two-turn coupling coil on the end of the co-ax cable.

Standard Inductor No. 2: 4½ turns of 16 gauge B. & S. enamelled wire, 2" diameter tightly coupled to the co-ax coupling loop.

If these are to be regularly used, it is recommended that each be made up with its own co-ax cable, otherwise variation in coupling can cause serious erroneous readings.

Connection to condenser under test is via short pieces of brass which must make good fitting to the condenser being tested.

#### COIL DATA

No. 1—210 turns No. 32 B. & S. enamelled wire close wound on 1½" diam. former. Coupling coil, 30 turns, same wire at earthed end of main coil—1 millihenry, 500 to 1000 Kc. approx.

No. 2—70 turns No. 32 B. & S. enamelled wire close wound on 1½" diam. former. Coupling coil, 7 turns, same wire at earthed end of main coil—200 microhenries, 1 to 2.5 Mc. approx.

No. 3—38 turns No. 20 B. & S. enamelled wire close wound on 1½" diam. former. Coupling coil, 4 turns, close wound at earthed end of main coil—40 microhenries, 2.5 to 5 Mc. approx.

No. 4—14½ turns No. 20 B. & S. enamelled wire close wound on 1½" diam. former. Coupling coil 2 turns of same wire close wound at earthed end of main coil—10 microhenries, 5-10 Mc. approx.

No. 5—8 turns No. 16 B. & S. enamelled wire close wound on 1½" diam. former. Coupling coil, 2 turns, same wire close wound at earthed end of main coil—2.5 microhenries, 10 to 20 Mc. approx.

Note—Coils Nos. 1 and 2 are mainly for inductance and capacity checking.

### USING TYPE 19 GENEMOTOR FOR 12 VOLT D.C. OPERATION

The above unit has been operating satisfactorily for the last three years and therefore output ratings and modifications carried out here may be of interest.

The unit is compound wound and needs no starter mechanism. The ratings of the two output windings as given on the name plate are correct with 14 volts at the input terminals, viz.: 375 volts (110 Ma.) and 500 volts (50 Ma.). At 12 volts, these drop to 250 and 450 volts respectively. The 250 volt section is adequately filtered for supplying a v.f.o. and low power stages.

The modifications carried out were to remove switch, input and output sockets, and associated wiring, together with the r.f. choke in the negative input lead. Two heavy terminals were fitted in place of the sockets on the front of the case. The negative terminal grounded to case and connected to negative input brushholder by a heavy lead. The positive terminal connects to the Series Field lead through the r.f. choke. Do not connect direct to the brushholder.

Holes may also be cut in the case to allow easy access to the grease nipples on the bearing housings.


On the output side the negative 250 volt remains as originally connected (to ground). The negative brushholder of the 500 volt winding is connected direct to the positive brushholder of the 250 volt winding, thus placing the two windings in series.

The output voltages are approximately 250 volts and 650 volts on load, with the input current running between 12 and 14 amperes.

This unit is supplying a five stage rig including v.f.o., with an input to the final 807 of 45 watts on c.w. The final voltage (600v.) varies less than 20 volts between key-up and key down. How-

ever, to obtain good regulation, the input leads must be as short as possible and heavy—not less than 7/038". At this station, the genemotors are placed as close to the batteries as possible; an automotive horn relay being used to remote control the Type 19.

—J. M. FARRER, VK3DP.



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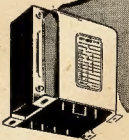
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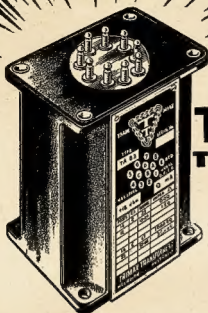
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# Converting ZB2 Homing Adaptor for 50 or 144 Mc.

## 50 Mc. Converter

The adaptor in its original state consists of three RF stages using 954 acorn tubes and a detector using another 954. The original frequency band is 234 to 258 Mc., and it should be noted that no oscillator or frequency changer is incorporated. It has been found, however, that it is relatively simple to change the wiring to provide two RF stages, a mixer, and an oscillator, the output of

the converter being on 5 Mc. or on any desired frequency which the individual Ham may prefer. The circuit diagram of the finished converter given here-with should assist one in carrying out the modifications, which are listed, for ease in working.

1. Remove all surplus filament wiring and switch, and wire all filaments in parallel for 6.3v. operation. The adaptor was originally wired for 12 or 24v. and the switch was used to change over

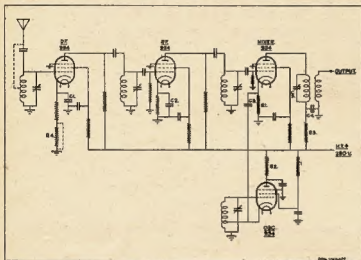
from one to the other.

2. Remove plugs Nos. 1 and 3 at rear of unit retaining No. 2 plug as power inlet if desired, and the co-ax connectors as antenna input and i.f. output.

3. Commencing with the r.f. stage, cut existing coil leaving  $\frac{1}{2}$ " to  $\frac{3}{4}$ " of wire in position for soldering to new coil. Short grid tap on coil to stator of antenna trimmer. Remove ceramic condenser from stator of antenna trimmer to earth. Take out 10,000 ohm resistor in cathode circuit, leaving 1,000 ohm resistor intact and connect to earth, the junction of these two resistors being originally connected to rear plug by plain white wire, also to be taken out. Add a 0.001 condenser from cathode to earth for additional by-passing, otherwise r.f. stages may oscillate because of the lower frequency.

4. The second r.f. stage remains intact with the exception of an additional 0.001 uF. condenser from cathode to earth and a new tuning coil.

5. Convert third r.f. stage to a mixer stage as follows: Remove plate coupling condenser and 30,000 ohm plate resistor. Remove cathode resistor and re-place with 100,000 ohm, which is the resistor removed from the first r.f. stage. Lift cathode by-pass condenser from earth. This condenser serves as a coupling condenser to oscillator (3.3 pF.).



In the schematic diagram the grid condenser and grid resistor to the 954 oscillator were inadvertently omitted, existing components retained.

C1, C2, C4—0.001 uF. condenser.

C3—3.3 pF., lifted from ground.

C5—3/30 pF. trimmer.

R1—100,000 ohm resistor.

R2, R3—30,000 ohm resistor.

R4—100,000 ohm resistor shorted to earth or removed.

Coils—See text.

Quite a number of ZB2 Homing Adaptors have been available on the Disposals market and in response to requests from members, we present herewith a collection of data on the above unit.

The first article we present with due acknowledgement to "Break In," and the latter article to Herb. Stevens, VK3JO.

6. Convert detector stage to an oscillator as follows: Grid circuit remains intact. Remove cathode resistor and condenser.

7. In rear compartment remove existing r.f. choke, strip off the old winding and re-wind with 40 turns of 28 s.w.g., or sufficient to reach output frequency should this be other than 5 Mc. After waxing this coil, wind on four turns over the "cold" end, or more, depending on amount of coupling desired to provide connection for low impedance output. Replace what is now the i.f. transformer and connect the "hot" end to "B" positive through a 30,000 ohm resistor and by-pass to earth through a 0.001 uF. condenser. Place a 3-30 pF. trimmer across primary winding. One end of the output coil is earthed and the other end taken to "output" co-ax. connector. Note that "output" connector is next to plug No. 2.

8. The plate of the oscillator tube is connected to "B" positive through 30,000 ohm resistor.

9. Coils. As mentioned for first r.f. stage, all existing coils are clipped out leaving  $\frac{1}{2}$ " to  $\frac{3}{4}$ " of wire to take new coils.

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R.f. coils, 11 turns.

Mixer, 11 turns.

Oscillator 14 turns (tapped at 4 turns from ground end).

All coils are close wound on  $\frac{1}{2}$ " diameter former with No. 20 a.w.g. enamelled wire and slid off to leave a self supporting coil.

10. Solder the coils into place to the remaining wires of the original coils. The oscillator coil tap is connected to the cathode of the oscillator tube and also to the mixer tube cathode through the coupling condenser previously mentioned in instruction 5.

11. If a "grid dip" meter is available, all four circuits may now be live up, r.f. stages and mixer to 50 Mc. and the oscillator to 45 Mc. (if the i.f. frequency is 5 Mc.), using the original air trimmers. At these frequencies the silvered slugs should be completely withdrawn from the coils. Note that as the slug is inserted into the coil, the inductance is lowered, and the frequency increased.

12. All screen circuits remain intact and are connected to "B" positive by the white wire with an orange stripe, and all plate circuits fed by the white wire with red stripe.

13. The original antenna coupling through the co-ax. connector and line to first r.f. stage remains, also the small ceramic condenser coupling to the grid, or tap in on coil to suit impedance of transmission line.

The coils, as specified, give full band spread from 50 to 54 Mc., but to increase the coverage a smaller diameter coil, having more turns, will be required. The converter is very sensitive and the signal to noise ratio leaves nothing to be desired.

## 144 Mc. Converter

At the outset it was desired to operate the ZB3 as a converter for 144 Mc., feeding into the Type 3 Mk. II receiver as a receiving set-up for portable use. Conversion along the lines described above for 50 Mc. should prove equally as satisfactory (provided coils of appropriate size are substituted for those specified) as the conversion method to be described, for the only differences are that the oscillator tube used here is a 955 triode, the injection into the mixer stage is by means of the suppressor grid, and the interstage coupling has been modified slightly to give somewhat better performance.

Conversion of the two r.f. stages is as described above for 50 Mc. All heaters are wired for 6 volt operation, unnecessary by-pass condensers and resistors removed, cathode by-passes increased to 0.001  $\mu$ F, screen by-passes (30 pF) and resistors (0.2 meg.) remain, but the coupling between first and second r.f. stages and second r.f. and mixer stages is altered so that improved coupling is obtained. The grid resistors, 50,000 ohms, are removed, the grids connected directly to the tuned circuits, and the 5 pF. condensers, so gained, connected in parallel with the 5 pF. coupling condensers from the plate of the first and second r.f. stages to the tuned circuits. R.f. chokes were tried in place of the 30,000 ohm plate resistors, but as no improvement was noticed and as it was convenient to operate the unit

from a power supply giving a higher voltage than is recommended for these tubes, the resistors were replaced.

The reasons for the use of the 955 tube as oscillator are twofold: (a) One of the 954 tubes in the unit was found to be defect, and (b) A 955 reposited in the spare tubes' department. However, getting it going presented one or two difficulties. The circuit used is essentially the same as the above 954 oscillator, the plate of the 955 being fed through a 30,000 ohm resistor, by-passed to chassis with 250 pF, and the cathode tapped up from the "cold" end of the coil. The values of grid condenser and leak are 100 pF. and 20,000 ohms respectively.

Snag number one was in getting the tube to oscillate and was overcome by increasing the value of the plate by-pass from 30 pF. (existing screen by-pass for 954 tube) to 250 pF. as mentioned above. Number two snag was in keeping it oscillating! In order to check that oscillation was occurring (prior to the frequency being corrected) a meter, 0-1 Ma., was connected in series with the grid leak at its earthy end. However, removing the meter leads and connecting the grid leak to earth caused all other symptoms of oscillation to disappear. Putting an r.f. choke (from an I.F.F. unit) in series with the grid leak at its "hot" end and by-passing it with a 30 pF. condenser cured that one.

Injection of oscillator voltage into the suppressor grid of the 954 mixer is accomplished by disconnecting the suppressor grid from the chassis, inserting a 47,000 ohm resistor between these points and then connecting a 5 pF. condenser between the suppressor grid and the "hot" end of the oscillator coil. The plate circuit of the mixer tube is treated as described above for 50 Mc., but the cathode resistor is 10,000 ohms and is by-passed with 0.006  $\mu$ F, this value being used because it was the first one to be found in the condenser department. Any good mica condenser whose reactance at the intermediate frequency is

quite low compared with the value of the cathode resistor, should be suitable.

The aerial coupling should be as tight as possible and the actual method will depend largely on the type of feed line used. In this instance, a "Leno" beam fed with 300 ohm twin lead is used, so the co-ax antenna lead was dispensed with and the 300 ohm lead, brought in through the top cover plate, is connected directly to a three-turn coil wound over the top of the three-turn grid coil. Some further experimental work here may be beneficial.

All coils are of three turns, approx.  $\frac{1}{2}$ " diameter. The cathode tap for the oscillator, which is on the low frequency side of the signal frequency, being at one turn from the "cold" end of the coil. Some adjustments, trimming and concentrating of the coils was necessary to line-up and track all circuits, but presented no great difficulties and the hash from a superregen receiver gave a rough alignment, final adjustment of the trimmers being made with the aid of various signals on the band.

At this stage it was noticed that tuning was very sharp and it was necessary to adjust the Type 3 receiver in order to tune signals in at all. In an effort to overcome this, the existing drive arrangement for the tuning slugs was removed and a finely threaded  $\frac{1}{8}$ " diam. rod arranged to drive them. Even though the push rod has been spring loaded, back lash is still apparent, but it is possible to tune a signal in without adjusting the tuning of the Type 3 receiver. The band is now covered by about 10 or 12 complete revolutions of the tuning knob, compared with about 230 degrees of rotation with the existing drive arrangement.

Results.—Signals which previously were smothered by hash of the superregen. are now audible and, if crystal controlled, quite readable. If from a mod. osc., they may, or may not, be readable depending on the degree of frequency shift under modulation and

(Continued on Page 14)

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# RESULTS OF 1949 VK-ZL DX CONTEST

The results of the VK-ZL DX Contest for 1949 are published herewith and although the number of logs submitted locally was not an adequate indication of the activity, the general feeling was that an extra good time was had by all concerned and mention is made of the fact that some very good work was done particularly on the l.f. end of the spectrum.

## C.W. SECTION

The winner of the Open Section for c.w. operation was ZLIMB with a terrific total of 152,847 points in 81 countries, a truly magnificent effort and our congratulations go to him for his effort.

VK2EO made a welcome re-appearance in this Contest and tops the VK end of the scores by a big margin; other State winners were VK3KK, VK4RC, VK5PH, VK6RU, and VK7KB, congratulations to one and all.

### Open Section

ZLIMB	152847	VK4RC	24912
VK2EO	130248	VK7JB	22032
VK2DG	95460	VK3DQ	20664
VK2ZC	85640	VK3JI	18093
VK2RA	83148	VK5OU	17346
VK2TF	69135	ZL3AB	11088
VK5FH	62784	VK3PG	9321
VK2JX	62634	VK3ABA	8370
VK3KK	57408	VK5AF	7080
VK6RU	53130	VK3UT	6606
VK7KB	50797	VK5KO	4686
VK3PH	42132	ZL1QW	3180
VK3XQ	36670	VK2IC	2106
ZLIMQ	28776	VK3TX	1008
VK6RX	28204	VK3EG	1005

### 14 Mc. Section

VK2DG easily proved the best on the 14 Mc. band and his entry of 430 QSOs in 74 countries for the Contest period was excellent—total 95,460 points. Conditions on this band were good for most of the time but were marred by intermittent bursts of bad key clicks from leading ZL stations which, aided by fortunate skip effect, were not sufficiently prolonged to involve disqualification. Local stations were not exempt from this by any means and it is about time that some of the consistent offenders in this respect took a look at their own signals.

VK2DG	95460	VK5RX	17115
ZLIMB	80808	VK3DQ	14312
VK2TF	69135	ZL1MR	13284
ZL1DV	48216	ZL2AB	11178
VK2ZC	45708	VK4TY	11136
VK7KB	42000	ZL3AB	9360
VK2RA	41748	VK5FM	8502
VK5FH	33462	VK7LJ	7800
VK8DX	28204	VK5OU	7650
VK3KK	24948	VK5AF	7080
VK2JX	22755	ZL1IG	3860
VK3CA	21456	VK3YF	2983
VK7JB	19440	VK2IC	2106
VK3PL	19320	ZL1QW	1848
VK5BO	19320	ZL3CP	1620
VK3JI	18093	VK5KO	1479
VK3YD	17205	VK3TX	1008

### 28 Mc. Section

From a VK point of view the 28 Mc. conditions were good over the first half but fairly poor on the latter end. This

did not seem to disturb VK4AP who netted 18792 points in easy style, thus winning the ten metre c.w. section. There was little activity on the 11 metre band.

VK4AP	18792	VK3XX	1365
VK5AE	16416	VK5KA	1064
VK3NM	9782	ZL1MQ	808
VK8BT	8912	VK7JB	720
VK2AHM	4974	VK3GW	384
ZL1MB	3289	VK7KB	357
VK2JX	3120	VK5OU	231
VK2ZC	2040	ZL1QW	162
VK5KO	1479	ZL3AB	81

### 27 Mc. Section

VK2RA	12
VK2JX	3
VK3EG	3

### 7 Mc. Section

The 7 Mc. band was wide open for the Hams who wanted to take advantage of it with the result that VK2G, working here (and on 28 Mc.), had by far the best results of any VK-ZL stations and managed 70 QSOs in 18 countries, and this was good going OM. Congrats!

VK2G	3780	VK5OU	792
VK5KO	1632	VK2ZC	759
VK3KK	1485	ZL1MB	750
ZL4GA	1470	VK3FA	693
VK2RA	1286	ZL1MQ	528
VK2JX	1280	VK4XJ	231

### 3.5 Mc. Section

VK5KO takes the cake for his 80 metre work scoring 96 points with six Europeans and two Ws, and was the only log received. The old reliable VK2RA worked DL1FF on 3.5 Mc., but did not submit it as a log.

Check logs for the c.w. section were received from VK4RF, VK2PV, VK2JQ, VK3ASB, and ZL3GR.

## OVERSEAS C.W. SECTION

The following are the results for overseas stations for the bands and/or open sections for which they were entered.

### 14 Mc. Section

WIRY	4080	OELAD	1500
W1BIB	1950	OE3CC	870
W1APA	1224	OE3AR	480
W2AIS	3969	OE1KR	144
W3OCU	3080	FAIDA	1458
W4ADZ	1710	VU2MA	60
W3KQD	170	DL1FF	3600
W3CGS	480	DL1KS	1188
W3NCF	468	DL1EN	756
W4LZF	1026	DL1TS	744
W5JD	2130	DL1DA	594
W5PKE	1080	DL1FI	462
W3JUF	336	DL1EV	135
W6AM	1344	G6XN	3480
W9AEH	4950	G6PK	1512
W9WEN	936	G5TL	528
W8GDI	1053	G7WSL	3270
W9QLW	420	G4MBV	420
VE3AMK	408	GI4RY	300
Z5SU	504	SM5LL	108
F9BO	1440	SM5TQ	27
F9DW	408	SM3FY	45
F9OL	45	PAOZL	1134
OEL1CD	3000	KP4CC	2220

### 28 Mc. Section

WIRY	306	Z5SU	1152
W4LZF	234	F9DW	12
W4EEO	60	OE1CD	192
W5PKE	231	OE1AD	72
W6YC	525	OE3CC	18
W4JPC	420	ZL1FF	450
W9AEH	945	G6PK	360
W9WEN	12	GW5SL	156

### 7 Mc. Section

WIRY	108	Z5SU	72
W5PKE	432	DL1FF	96
W9AEH	378		

### 3.5 Mc. Section

DL1FF	18	DL1YA	3
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### Open Section

WIRY	9720	DL1EI	486
W2AIS	3969	DL1GU	210
W2EMU	1950	DL1FZ	18
W2EQS	513	G5TV	7056
W3ARK	3120	G8KP	3360
W4KVP	5559	GW5SL	5124
W4LZF	2295	GI4RY	300
W4CYC	1755	SM5WL	2730
W4DRK	234	SM7QY	1080
W5PKE	5184	SM5IZ	672
W5KC	3468	PAOZL	1134
W5JD	2130	PAORL	270
W6AM	1344	PAQGF	224
W6GPB	1131	KP4RD	2730
W8OCA	2820	KP4JE	96
W8DAE	696	OK3AL	690
W8PM	324	OK2MA	587
W9AEH	16575	OK1KY	504
W9WEN	1190	OK1XQ	210
VE3AMK	408	OX1DL	180
VE3ACS	96	OK1GT	36
VE1CU	63	ON4AZ	1110
Z5SU	4446	V5IDZ	5952
F9BO	1440	IKN	3015
F8TDM	630	KH6J	4920
F9DW	530	CT3AV	48
OE1CD	4872	TF3ZM	18
OE1AD	2262	4X4RE	693
OE3CC	1132	XC3CS	1080
FA8DA	1458	LA7Y	2970
VU2MA	60	LA2B	600
VPIAA	720	LA6O	483
DL1FF	10512	VO6EP	200
DL1PK	5616	OA4J	3600
DL1KE	4176	OZ3FL	3600
DL1DX	3285	ZS6BJ	120
DL3DU	1590		

Check logs were received from: G3DVM, G3HK, G6CJ, G8PV, G8LN, VP9G, VE3JJ, PA0UV, SM5RH, OK1BM, W1BOD, W1AB, W4PN, W6BVQ, W6NNV, and W8HA.

## PHONE SECTION

### Open Section

ZL4HP	47616	ZL1MQ	9804
ZL3HC	41760	VK2AMV	4698
VK4KS	38979	VK5LC	1035
VK6KW	15369		

### 14 Mc. Section

VK4KS	38979	VK6KW	5022
VK3JG	26790	ZL1MQ	4500
VK2US	25704	VK2WD	1050
ZL3HC	17820	VK3MX	287
ZL4HP	12969		

## 28 Mc. Section

VK6AS	21150	VK6KW	2820
ZL4HP	10875	VK5LC	1035
ZL3HC	4950	ZL1MQ	900
VK6HL	4536		

## 50 Mc. Section

ZL1MQ was the only station to send in a log for 50 Mc. where he made contact with KH6FP—a fine effort—scoring 3 points

## OVERSEAS PHONE SECTION

Overseas stations have forwarded the following logs.—

	14 Mc.	28 Mc.	Open
PK4KS	108	1458	
PK3WH		1431	
PK3MR			3042
VE3AMK	18		
ZS5DS		30	
PY2CK	1140		
FB80	483		
DL1FK		1656	
W7KK		163	
W4EEO		72	
G8XN		1539	
OQ5BA		24	
CK2CO		162	
VS1DZ		1485	
OK1HI		54	
ON4AZ	12		

## RECEIVING SECTION

### Phone and C.W.

In both the number of local and overseas entrants there would seem to be a marked lack of entries. So small in fact that there is doubt that this section is worth persevering with.

### VK-ZL Section

BERS195, Eric Trebbilcock, 184 Osborne Street, Williamstown, W.16, Victoria	137808
M. Phillips, Box 33 Warkworth, North Auckland, N.Z.	5460
F. H. Price, 74 Cleaver St., West Perth	3469
A. Moore, 18 Bourne St., New Farm, Brisbane	606

### Overseas Section

OE-196, Richard Payer, P.O. Box Knittelfeld, Austria (QRA as from entry)	2304
OE-059	2094
OE-323	849
OE-314	872
DEM-1687	2685
HB9SE	66
OK1-1647	465
BRS15822	3888
G. Hoffmann, Frankfurt-Hochst, Emmerich Josef Str., Germany	6783

## OUR FRONT COVER

Pictured on the front cover is the new transmitter at VK3WI. The background is provided by a photograph of 2CM's transmitter of 25 years ago.

The new VK3WI transmitter as pictured consists of the two lower panels are the main 1,200 volt h.t. supply with the voltmeter in the centre of the top panel. The next panel is the 600 volt minor h.t. supply, bias and filament supply.

The fourth panel contains the relay switching with the control buttons for local control of the transmitter. In the centre of the panel is the minor h.t. voltmeter with the meter switches on either side.

Panel 5, 6, 7, and 8 are the separate finals for each band, the 80 metre final being number 5.

The v.f.o. output feeds via a co-ax line on 3.5 Mc. to an 807 amplifier which drives a pair of 834s in push pull on 80 metres.

When the control panel switch is thrown to 7 Mc. the r.f. from the 3.5 Mc. 807 is directed to the panel above where it is fed into an 807 doubler which in turn feeds a pair of 834s on that band. The same principle is used for the successively higher bands, 14 and 28 Mc.

From the operating desk, band changing is accomplished by simply throwing the appropriate toggle switch for the band required.

This photograph is, of course, only the r.f. section of the complete VK3WI, the audio equipment being housed in a smaller rack.

Unfortunately we were unable to obtain, in time, a description of Charles MacLurcan's (2CM) transmitter, no doubt that will be forthcoming for a future issue.

The Victorian Division wish to express their appreciation to Philips Electrical Industries of Australia Pty. Ltd. for their generous gesture in allowing use of their space on the front cover.

## 14th B.E.R.U. CONTESTS, 1951

**Dates.**—Phone: 1700 G.M.T. February 3 to 1700 G.M.T. February 4, 1951. C.W.: 1700 G.M.T. February 24 to 1700 G.M.T. February 25, and 1700 G.M.T. March 3 to 1700 G.M.T. March 4, 1951. Phone and C.W. have Senior (full licensed power); C.W. also has Junior (25 watts maximum).

**Bands.**—Phone: 14 and 28 Mc. only; a.m. or c.w. as permitted. C.W.: 3.5, 7, 14, and 28 Mc.; T9 only.

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**Call.**—"CQ BERU" and work Commonwealth Stations. Exchange five- or six-figure serials: RST or RS plus three figure number starting between 001 and 400, and increasing by one each QSO.

**Scoring.**—Commonwealth is divided into 20 zones as below. Fifteen points for first QSO each zone, fourteen for second, thirteen for third, etc., and one point for fifteenth and further QSOs. Scoring system repeats for each zone and for each band. No QSO with own zone.

**Entries.**—In form shown appended, with declaration (on sheet 1) and zone score analysis (sheet 2). Paper size, Quarto (8 x 10) or Foolscap (8 x 13), Logs in time order.

Post to R.S.G.B., New Ruskin House, Little Russell Street, London, W.C.1, not later than February 12 (phone), or March 12 (c.w.) to be received by June 4, 1951.

### Zones:—

- 1-AP, VU2, 4, 5, V57.
- 2-GC, GD, 04, OM, GW.
- 3-DL2, MB9.
- 4-8P, HF, WS, NY, ZB.
- 5-MI, ST.
- 6-VE1, 2.
- 7-VE3.
- 8-VE4, 5, 6.
- 9-VE7, 8.
- 10-VK2, 3.
- 11-VK4, 7.
- 12-VK5, 6.
- 13-VK9, VM4.
- 14-VQ.
- 15-VP1, 3, 5, 7, 9.
- 16-VP2, 4, 6.
- 17-VW, VKL.
- 18-VQ1, 3, 4, 5, ZD6.
- 19-VQ2, ZL.
- 20-VQ6, 9, ZC2.
- 21-VQ1, 2, 3, 5, 6, ZK, ZM.
- 22-VS1, 2, 4, 6.
- 23-VS6.
- 24-VB9, MP4.
- 25-ZD1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9.
- 26-ZL.
- 27-ZD2, 3.
- 28-ZD4 to 9.

All logs will be acknowledged on receipt. Check logs however small will be gratefully received.

### ENTRY, SHEET 1—

B.E.R.U. Contest 1951 Section  
Name (block letters)..... Call  
Input power to final stage Watts  
Aerial Systems  
(Other station details may be given.)

Declaration.—I hereby certify that my station was operated strictly in accordance with the rules and spirit of this Contest, and I agree that the decision of the Council of the R.S.G.B. shall be final in all cases of dispute.

Date..... Signed

Also, if not a member of R.S.G.B.:—  
I hereby certify that at the time of the

Contest I was a fully paid-up member of  
Date Signed

### ENTRY, SHEET 2— Zone Analysis of Score

Zone	...Mc.		...Mc.		...Mc.	
	Points	Contests	Points	Contests	Points	Contests
1-AP, VU2, 4, 5, V57						
2-GC, GD, 04, OM, GW						
3-DL2, MB9						
4-8P, HF, WS, NY, ZB						
Totals						

### Log Sheets

Date	G.M.T.	Band	Call Wkd.	Serial No. Sent	Nos. Recd.	Pts. Chd.	(Leave)

# TIME MARCHES ON

This, the 25th Anniversary of incorporation of the W.I.A. in Victoria, marks another milestone in its history—but let us not forget "Old Timers" whose efforts 25 and more years ago laid the foundation of the present-day Wireless Institute of Australia, Victorian Division.

It was hoped to be able to give you a complete history of the W.I.A. over this period, but unfortunately many records cannot be found, consequently we have had to rely on information gleaned from those "Old Timers" who are still available. This article will tell, as far as possible the events leading up to, and those Amateurs who took part in, the incorporation of the Institute.

Unfortunately, many of those who took part in this great work have "passed on" but their work lives on.

As early as 1900, individual members of our Melbourne community had been laboriously carrying out experiments to disclose fundamental knowledge of the new science. Prominent in those days were Mr. Jenvey who made the first wireless tests with the S.S. "Ophir" when King George V. then Duke of York, visited Australia in 1901.

By 1908 quite a few were working with spark coils as the means of transmitting a signal and with coherers as the means of receiving it. The latter was usually constructed from glass tube, silver rod and filings from a threepenny piece. On reception of the signal the filings cohered, at the same time indi-

cating this fact by a suitable electric sign at the receiving station. An electric bell was usually pressed into service to give the coherer the necessary jar to decohere the filings and make them ready to receive another signal. Reception of each dash or dot involved that whole cycle of operations and placed real limitations on speed of reception. Brass rods—usually curtain rods—formed the basis of much of the apparatus to transmit and to receive radio waves more effectively.

By 1909 crystal detectors appeared instead of coherers. These were of galena or of iron pyrites and many were the favoured methods to get the best results from them—leading to the "cat's whisker" days still outstanding in the memory of anyone connected with radio. A list of names of Amateurs in those days would include Bill Jenvey, Alf Averd, Chas Whitelaw and Stan Hosken.

The next two years were very important to Amateurs for 1910 was marked by an unfortunate incident in the United States where signals from a ship in distress were jammed by an Amateur there. This affected the standing of Amateurs all over the world. However, in 1911, whilst the fight for existence was still on, another experimenter in the United States was the means of saving life at sea. He heard a ship's distress signal and was in fact the only one to do so—which re-established in some part the standing of Amateur Radio.

These years saw the formation of the Wireless Institute of Victoria. The driving force in Melbourne was Walter King Witt. A booklet, dated 1914 (a copy of which is held in the Melbourne Public Library) stated in its Preface that:

"This publication, the first of its kind for Australia, has been compiled from official and other authentic sources in order to fill a long felt want by wireless experimenters, and also to show the public to what extent has been the growth of wireless in Australia during the past three years. It is issued with the hope that it may promote both study and experiment in this most useful branch of science."

The booklet published by the Wireless Institute of Victoria listed office-bearers as under:—

President: Vernon Cole, Esq.  
Vice-Presidents: W. King Witt, Esq., F. F. O'Shannessy, Esq.  
Council: Douglas Harrison, Esq., Herman Lindow, Esq., John Strickland, Esq., W. Ednacott, Esq.  
Hon. Corresponding Secretary: C. R. Dodson, Esq.  
Hon. Organising Secretary: John Welch, Esq.  
Hon. Treasurer: Angus McGregor, Esq.

Victorian Amateurs, under X call signs, numbered 193, with approximately a similar number for New South Wales, and a few in each of the other States.

Outbreak of the First World War gave Institute members an opportunity of showing the value of their training as Amateurs. Their technical knowledge

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### ENGLISH and AUSTRALIAN . . .

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was far above the average marine operator (of the time) and after a brief course in code, these men were passed into transports and other vessels in war work.

Return to the peace of 1920 brought severe opposition by the Navy to the re-establishment of the Amateur here. With a supporter in W. M. Hughes, Amateurs at last managed to convince Commander Creswell on the point. Licences were again issued, but at first were for receiving only. A fee of £2 was charged. This, however, was not without its compensations for it made Amateurs here concentrate thoroughly on the art of reception.

Subsequently, control passed from the Navy to the P.M.G.'s Department under whom Amateur Radio progressed remarkably well. The name of J. Malone, of the Department, must be mentioned here as a staunch supporter of the Amateur cause in these days. Active in reforming the Institute in those early post-war years was Victor Nightingall, ably supported by W. Conroy as Secretary. H. K. Love at that time asserted arguments for the Amateur cause that they were fully qualified and could, with encouragement, be equipped to give and receive overseas signals—a statement which was subject to a great deal of ridicule from some. However, a committee was appointed to prosecute the idea. It consisted of H. K. Love as chairman, Max Howden, Ross Hull, E. K. Cox, with C. H. Philpott as Secretary. These communicated with the American Radio Amateur organisation and a test was arranged for May 1923.

Publications setting forth Amateur Radio activities in Australia included the "Radio Experimenter" the official organ of the Wireless Institute of Australia, and also of the Royal Australian Air Force Wireless Reserve. From these journals and from the daily press of the time, one reads of achievements of Amateurs in Victoria in that post-war period. To view Amateur Radio achievements in the right perspective, one should remember that much of the work was done on wave lengths discarded by commercial radio as of no value.

To return to the test arranged for May, 1923, a report by H. K. Love in "Radio Experimenter" told of organised listening watches all over Australia for the Americans. Many stations heard weak c.w., but no stations were logged. Then came May 10 when Ross Hull, 3JU, between 6.30 and 7.40 heard 6CGW calling TJ. On May 17, word perfect messages were received from 6JD and 6KA, 8,000 miles away. Names of Victorian Amateurs in the news in those years have a familiar ring today 3SW, S. Gadsden; 3GB, M. A. Glover; 3BQ, Max Howden, E. H. Cox, 3BD. With these one must mention the New South Wales Amateurs, 2CM, Charles MacLurean, and F. S. Nolan, 2YL. The four last mentioned were heard in England in 1925 by numerous stations working over the long path and using wave-lengths of 35 to 38 metres. Reception was reported excellent.

#### FIRST OVERSEAS CONTACT

In 1924, Max Howden, the first Australian Amateur to communicate with England and with America by morse

code, conducted a test with Mr. Simmonds, 20D, of Gerrards Cross, London. This included a test with speech, but unfortunately it was spoiled because trouble with equipment intervened. However, Max Howden later distinguished himself as the first Australian to speak to England by radio—an achievement by an Amateur, before commercial radio entered the field.

It was in this very active period that the Wireless Institute of Australia held its first Convention. Its President in 1924 was H. K. Love; Vice-Presidents, Ross A. Hull and Max Howden; Hon. Secretary, T. P. Court; Organising Secretary, B. J. Masters; General Treasurer, C. Short. Affiliated clubs numbered 23, including those at Ballarat and Bendigo. Its meeting place was first at the rooms of Amalgamated Wireless of Australia. Later, meeting place changed to rooms in The Arcade, Frahran, Originally inhabited by pigeons for many years, the rooms were made shipshape by the boys who built their own furniture, cupboards and erected their masts complete with 12 feet spreaders. This antenna system was the sight of the town. Subsequently, a move was made to Kelvin Hall, Collins Place, Melbourne.

In 1924 the Victorian Division of the Wireless Institute held an exhibition of equipment, together with trade exhibits in the Melbourne Town Hall.

1925 was a significant year—a year of development. It was fitting that a great wireless exhibition was held in May of that year at Wirth's Olympia, Melbourne. Jerym B. Masters, on whose shoulders rested most of the organising of the exhibition, was a prominent member of the Institute whose President at the time was the late H. K. Love. The prize for best complete station was awarded to W. Gadsden, second prize to M. Chaffer. Kew Club won the prize in the club section. No doubt that equipment was liberally strewn with pancake coils, spiderweb coils, home-made grid leaks and with the new triode valve—articles on the four electrode valve appeared in 1924. One should mention in passing the name of P. H. McElroy, Doyen of the Retail Wireless trade in Victoria and a familiar name of Amateurs seeking material to build their own equipment in those days.

Clubs were numerous in those days. Geelong Radio Club distinguished itself by giving the first complete radio religious service in Australia. It was transmitted by the club from the Newtown Church. Records state that the rectifier used one dozen aspirin bottles with aluminium and lead strips. Hawthorn, Prahran, Malvern, East Kew, St. Kilda were each represented by radio clubs of the period. It is in that year, also, we read in the daily press signs of things to come—"Amateurs opposed to wave length restrictions." In that year was held the Federal Conference of the Wireless Institute reported in the "Argus" on September 14. Mention of pirates is found in the news, also fading investigations and day and night effects. One must not let the year pass without listing Charles Whitelaw's transmission from Benalla to Pennsylvania more Amateurs speak to England and to Holland. In that year also were

references to a seemingly incredible fact—that stronger signals were heard at greater distances and so began the piecing together of an interesting story, the results of which many take in a very matter of fact way today.

Whilst 1925 was regarded as a year of development, for much occurred in that year in technical progress, that year also marked the incorporation of the Victorian Division of the Wireless Institute of Australia as a trading body. This step calls to mind the name of J. Malone, at the time Chief Manager Telegraphs and Wireless in the Postmaster General's Department, and respected among Amateurs for his helpfulness and tolerance.

"Radio Experimenter" of that period records a letter from Mr. Malone advising Amateurs to "put their house in order"—advice which led to the incorporation of the Victorian Division of the Wireless Institute—the twenty-fifth anniversary of which we celebrate this year.

#### EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 1)

Secondly, Amateur Radio provides a reservoir of trained personnel for defence purposes, and this must weigh heavily in the scales. These important factors should be sufficient to stimulate each Amateur to maintain his station in such a condition that he can put a satisfactory signal on the air in an emergency, despite continual alterations to equipment.

Thirdly, Amateur Radio has reason to be pleased with its contribution in radio research by pioneering short wave communication and in developing new techniques—antenna systems, selectivity devices, instruments and the like. There is every indication that it will continue to make similar contributions in the future.

But there is another aspect which brings us before the public eye more than these. Do we realise what a wonderfully powerful means we have in our hands to promote friendship and understanding between peoples—not only between different States of our Commonwealth and we need that most certainly—but also between people of other lands? But with that power goes a great responsibility—a responsibility to represent our own folk truly and well to other groups about the world. This to me seems to be the greatest task we have as Amateurs, and it is according to the extent to which we measure up to the standards by which others judge our conduct on the air that the future of Amateur Radio will depend.

In the 25 years of Amateur Radio, marked by this number, we have much to be proud of. What can we make of the Institute's 25 years to ensure that we justify and strengthen the confidence of the authorities which we at present enjoy? Victorian Division, in sharing in the pleasures of twenty-five years of achievement, likewise must share in that responsibility.

G. S. C. SEMMENS (VK3GS),  
President, Victorian Division, W.I.A.

# Western N.S.W. Amateur Emergency Activity

N.S.W. Amateurs during the last 18 months have been active in many emergencies when floodings in many parts of the State caused loss of life and tremendous damage. Due to the abnormal rains and the resultant saturated ground, run off is practically complete and rivers are still rising very rapidly after rain.

With the summer approaching the position should improve, but during late October the Lachlan River was again flooded and Radio Amateurs in the valley were active assisting to maintain communications in the area.

It was evident by Saturday, 21st October, following heavy rain, that a major flood would occur along the Lachlan. Accordingly Jim Corbin, VK2YC, was requested to contact the authorities and inform them that Amateurs in the Forbes district would be requesting permission to handle emergency traffic within the next 24 hours. The next day with flood waters rising, 300 subscribers to the Forbes telephony exchange had lost communication and the main business portion of the town, the District Hospital and the Police Inspector were out of contact.

After an emergency call, official P.M.G. station VNS was contacted on 7 Mc., and permission was granted to handle urgent telephone messages within the Forbes area. Local Amateurs were fully equipped with battery operated equipment as the switch gear in the local sub-station was under water, and a temporary one installed, it was considered that a power failure was imminent.

By this stage, Forbes was cut into three "islands" with Bill Kennedy, VK2BT, operating from one, Jim Carr, VK2JV, from the second—the town itself, where he had a runner to the P.O. John Mesgher, VK2AMV, from the third, and Hugh Stitt, VK2WH, from outside the town area; all stations handling urgent traffic as required.

The Amateurs were advised that Army "Ducks" had been dispatched for relief in the area and as they had required assistance in the April floods, a continuous watch was manned on the Army frequency of 3380 Kc. They arrived in the small hours and Amateur

assistance was requested. The following morning, 23rd October, VK2AMV obtained permission from VK2AA, P.M.G. station, to co-operate with the Army, and from that date onwards until the departure of the "Ducks" on 28th October, Amateurs were continuously operating on 3380 Kc.

The Hams relayed messages where required and forwarded daily reports to Army H.Q. in Sydney. Later when the "Ducks" were in the Warren area, VK2WH again contacted them and passed further messages to Sydney.

Bands used by the Amateurs during the operation were 3.5, 7, 14 and 50 Mc., plus the Army frequency. Conditions

experienced during the period were extremely poor, influenced no doubt by the Aurora disturbance at the time. C.W. proved a blessing and with it quite a percentage of the traffic could not have been handled.

Amateurs who operated in the Forbes area extend their thanks to the many Amateurs in the State who assisted checking transmissions and band conditions, also the P.M.G. Department for the rapid permission given for operation and the help given by official stations.

These floods were the worst experienced in the history of the valley and the Forbes "Advocate" praised the work of the Radio Amateur.

● It might happen to you so be prepared.

*To The Victorian Division of The  
Wireless Institute of Australia, we  
extend our Congratulations on the  
occasion of the 25th Anniversary of  
its Inauguration.*

*To Members of the Wireless Institute and to  
Amateurs everywhere, we extend  
Hearty Seasonal Greetings.*



WE THANK ALL READERS OF THIS MAGAZINE FOR  
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# DX NOTES BY VK4QL

## IONOSPHERIC PREDICTIONS FOR THE AMATEUR BANDS

DECEMBER, 1950

October produced an even thicker "Ion Curtain" than the previous month. Hard listening to hear the weak signals which did get through was a necessity.

All bands were effected, and to make matters worse, the noise level from static on 3.5 and 7 Mc prevented listening or operating on those bands for days on end. One notable thing on 14 Mc. was the big changes that took place over a period of 24 hours, and an even bigger change in a week. For example, one week Europe came through until 5.30 p.m. The following week they were non-existent. 28 Mc. showed the same erratic behaviour. Plenty of Asians one night, the next, nil stocks. Europe has been non-existent on 14 Mc. round 6-7 p.m., but North and Central America, with the odd North African, were heard. One morning on a dead band, CR5AC was QSOed at 6.30 a.m. with S7 at both ends. He was just as surprised as I was at the strange conditions. FFBJC was again heard in the same circumstances.

Southern stations seemed to do reasonably well in the VK-ZL Contest, but it was not easy work. ZLMB did not seem to be "bawling them over" with his usual ease.

F18BK was QSOed this month. Our QSO was his first on the air and he was going through the usual "jitters" we all go through, but he was not helped by the impatient VKs who kept jamming the QSO. All that I could get as far as

QTH is concerned is: "I am a French soldier in Indo-China, and will write you." He was not heard after the QSO, so probably went for a "quickie" to recover his composure.

The last week-end of the month produced a "black out" on 14 Mc. ZLs blocked the receiver, but the rest of the signals were very weak and were Oceanic only. The band remained dead on Sunday, except for a brief period round 4.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m., when some very weak DX got through. Since then the noise level has been extremely high, even on 14 Mc. 7 Mc. has been useless, even the VKs being weak and a "hol-low" effect on the signal.

I am indebted to 5JE for dope on 7 Mc. in Adelaide. He mainly operates this band, but the band fell away as the month progressed. However, HC2IH showed up on the band one night and by hooking him, 5JE completed his 7 Mc. W.A.C. Strange, but true, he worked FA8BG at 4.30 p.m. on the last Sunday of the DX Contest. Contacts were made with V57 and Europe also, so Adelaide produced a W.A.C. in the month for 5JE. He says very good signals came from the States between 5.30 and 7 p.m., then they faded out until 9 p.m., when they returned for a period of an hour. Nothing like that up here. I could not work or hear the South Africans the same as last month. Many thanks Ted. What about somebody else giving me some news, eh?

Listings for the month are not too bad, despite the poor conditions. They are: 28 Mc.—EQ3FM, XZ2EM, ZC6JM, KJ3AL, HS1SS; 14 Mc.—CR5AC (Box 38, Biscuit, Portuguese Guinea), FO8AD, IS1AHK, HZ1KE, PK7NL, \*3V8BD, VQ8CB, VP3JP, VP0TI (QSL via the R.S.G.B.), LA2B, ZB2I, HR1DF (Comayaguela, Honduras), KS4AI, FKS8AR (Vienna, Austria), ET9X (QSL via the A.R.R.L.), UF6AC, UF6AP, 4X4BL, 4X4CL, 3A2AB, FFBJC, F18BK, ET6AC, AC4RM. The last named caused quite some consternation on the band the night he appeared. As was expected, everything but the kitchen sink appeared on the band. A VK3 got the honor. He was being pressed for his QTH, when "foney" was transmitted by another VK3, adding that his signal was coming from the South. The signal from AC4RM was quite strong here, but having no beam, I could not check. Anyhow there was a smart exit from the band of the AC4.

QSLs received were C3MY, Formosa; VQ8CB, KV4AU, VR1C, ZB2I, VP8SJ, SP1SJ, UL7AB, YU3GH, YU3FLA.

Trev., 2NS, is becoming the fact he cannot get a QSL from VP2, EA8 and AR8, but is still hoping. I am still trying to get a QSL from FO8AC for VK2, VK3 and VK4 contacted.

The Propagation Bulletin for December does not give much hope for good hunting on 14 Mc., but 28 Mc. and 7 Mc. should be better than the month of November.

● The thought for the month: "Populate or perish." Use the lower frequency bands more, otherwise we will lose them. They are better for cross town chatter than 14 Mc. anyhow.

Nine of the charts, prefixed by the letter "C" for Canberra, refer to forecasts for the South-Eastern Australian States. The remainder, prefixed by the letter "P" for Perth, are for Western Australia.

The Canberra charts refer to the following world zones:—

Zone	Region	Terminal
1	Western Europe	London
2	Mediterranean	Cairo
3	N.-West America	San Francisco
3a	N.-East America	New York
4	Central America	Barbados
5	South Africa	Johannesburg
6	Far East	Manila

The Perth charts are similar to those based on Canberra.

### QUIZ

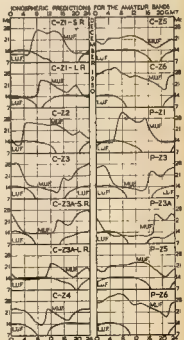
The Prediction Service welcomes comments on the accuracy of its predictions. In particular, answers to the following questions on the Canberra-San Francisco circuit would be useful:—

1. Were good conditions experienced on 7 Mc. for the period 1000 to 2000 hours G.M.T.?
2. Was the 14 Mc. band workable from 0600 to midnight G.M.T.?
3. Was the 28 Mc. band workable from 0200 to 0800 hours G.M.T.?

Answers to the Quiz should be sent to the W.I.A. and should, if possible, refer to consistent results obtained on the majority of days in the months.

## DX C.C. LISTING

FIFTH					
Call	No.	Ctr.	Call	No.	Ctr.
VK3JD	1	148	VK4AP	8	114
VK3EE	2	151	VK4AW	14	106
VK3EZ	3	161	VK4ZV	17	104
VK3W	4	149	VK4ZT	18	102
VK3RU	5	138	VK4HA	19	102
VK3RL	6	138	VK4H	20	101
VK3JN	11	124	VK4GG	18	100
VK4HR	12	124	VK4JO	8	100
VK4KR	9	121	ES4JE	7	100
CW					
Call	No.	Ctr.	Call	No.	Ctr.
VK3RZ	6	155	VK7LE	17	112
VK3ED	2	103	VK7JE	21	108
VK3CT	1	151	VK4RO	18	107
VK4EL	10	130	VK7GV	18	107
VK3PH	15	105	VK7YD	27	106
VK3OL	8	100	VK7SI	28	105
VK3VW	4	149	VK3SH	23	105
VK3KB	10	128	VK4FH	21	105
VK3GE	8	136	VK4J	25	104
VK4HR	6	131	VK4PJ	29	102
VK4RF	11	125	VK4APA	14	101
VK4RU	16	125	VK4NO	19	101
VK4RK	2	138	VK4CE	26	101
VK4EX	22	119	VK2OA	32	101
VK4UM	12	116	VK7RE	22	100
VK4DG	7	104	VK7LF	24	100
VK4DO	9	113			
OPEN					
Call	No.	Ctr.	Call	No.	Ctr.
VK3BE	4	203	VK4FL	26	110
VK4U	8	170	VK4ZT	14	112
VK3XX	1	157	VK4RO	21	110
VK4RW	7	167	VK3ED	24	110
VK3JG	3	150	VK4WY	40	108
VK3HR	17	161	VK3RG	25	108
VK3DI	3	160	VK7YL	11	106
VK3JG	13	154	VK4ARM	20	106
VK4EL	1	150	VK4H	22	106
VK4DO	15	140	VK4AWN	30	105
VK3MC	5	130	VK3W	18	104
VK4KS	24	130	VK4U	27	104
VK3OP	19	127	VK3HE	17	103
VK3DD	18	128	VK7ED	30	103
VK3AD	16	128	VK7T	37	103
VK4HA	9	128	VK4RO	38	103
VK3JN	20	126	VK7RE	31	102
VK3NS	15	123	VK4T	25	102
VK4PJ	25	123	VK4AC	28	106
VK7LE	28	116	VK7GO	29	100



## ZB2 HOMING ADAPTOR

(Continued from Page 7)

the consequent distortion due to the sharpness of the Type 3 receiver. Noise level is quite low, so low in fact that it is a cause for doubt that the converter is working as well as it could be. Stability of the oscillator leaves quite a lot to be desired and the use of such a selective receiver means that these faults become readily apparent. When operating the ZB2 from the Type 3 power supply, the note from the 955 oscillator is about T4-5. R.f. chokes in the heater leads make no difference, but operating it from a separate power supply causes the note to improve to T6-7. Unfortunately, the design of the ZB2 does not allow much scope for experimentation here and so far no further improvement in the note has been possible, though the same tube in a series fed Hartley oscillator does produce a good clean note.

There is a continuous drift in frequency for 15 minutes or so after switch-

ing on and in addition every slight fluctuation in voltage causes the frequency to move. These effects may be overcome by the use of temperature co-efficient condensers and voltage regulator tubes, but to date these have not been tried. As it stands, it has achieved its main purpose—a more effective portable receiver than the superregen. detector.

Since writing the above, the output frequency of the mixer has been altered from 9.7 Mc. to 7 Mc. with a consequent increase in strength of both signals and noise. This confirms that the middle range of the Type 3 Receiver now in use has greater sensitivity than the highest range, and also serves to indicate the desirability of using a highly sensitive receiver in conjunction with the ZB2.

## U.C.C. MOVE TO NEW BIGGER PREMISES

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The Company began on midday Friday, October 20, the move to its own modern factory premises situated at 433 Punchbowl Road, Enfield (LF 3511). The following Monday morning production re-commenced on a worthwhile scale.

The step is an indication of the progress which U.C.C. has made—progress which is very commendable in view of the Company having been formed just a little over twelve months ago by Tecnico Limited in conjunction with several overseas capacitor manufacturing companies.

Interviewed about the move, Mr. R. V. Bridekirk, Director of United Capacitor Co. Pty. Limited and of Tecnico Limited, dealt with the benefits which the new U.C.C. factory should bring to the radio, electrical, and electronic fields.

"This is an important step in the Company's plan to give the trade an even greater volume and range of capacitors," said Mr. Bridekirk. "The new premises will accommodate special machinery expected shortly from overseas, some of which will produce types of capacitors not previously made in this country. New techniques and processes are being introduced in the extra space now available," added Mr. Bridekirk.

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

W.I.A. members are requested to promptly notify any change of address to their Divisional Secretary, not direct to "Amateur Radio."



The Magazine Committee extends to all members, readers and advertisers a very Happy Xmas and a Bright New Year.

# UCC

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65/1P





# Abstracts from Overseas Magazines

## "RADIO AND TELEVISION NEWS," JUNE, 1950

- P. 40 "A Portable 40 Metre CW Station;" H. C. Gould, W1WU—Regenerative receiver, two stage transmitter run from dry battery.
- P. 43 "A 300 Watt SP Amplifier for the Ham;" H. D. Hooten, W3CPA.
- P. 45 "Simplified Ham TV Station, Part II.;" J. H. Popkin, CLEAF—Stylized color camera, pick-up amplifier, blanking and sound circuits.
- P. 46 "Mobile Antenna for 75 Metres;" R. W. Jones, W5EQD—Simple, loaded whip. Test unit for measuring SWR.
- P. 48 "New Applications for Crystal Diodes;"—Germanium rectifiers used for: (i) Peak to peak voltage indicator, (ii) Detector for signal generator, (iii) Harmonic attenuator, (iv) Voltage regulator for 3 volt supply, (v) Rectification oscillator, (vi) Detector.
- P. 49 "Dual range multivibrator (10 Mc. or 3 Mc.) locked to 100 Mc. crystal

## "CQ," JUNE, 1950

- P. 11 "The Latest Techniques for the Elimination of Ham TV!;" P. S. Rand, W1DWM.
- P. 15 "A Flex-Powered VFO Rig for 10 Metre Mobile Operation;" O. C. Vayns, W5TIL—6A5 VFO on 14 Mc., 6C4 doubler, 6AQ5 final, 6AQ5 modulator.
- P. 17 "The Air Force Interest in Sporadic E Ionization;" Y. C. Gerson—Contains interesting series of maps showing the appearance, growth and drift of a number of Sporadic E "clouds."
- P. 18 "The Helical Mc-Pat;" J. Nicholson, W6CER—An effective "compensated" antenna for the low frequency bands.
- P. 24 "A Flexible 150 Watt Transmitter;" G. R. Bond, W4DDP—6XK1 ECO, 6F8, 6F6 isolators, 6V6 buffer amplifier, 6V6 or 6L6 doubler, 826 final.
- P. 27 "Modifying the 8C489 for T-V-F-60 Metre Band;" R. B. Brown, W5RIG—Good hint on converting a Command transmitter for Amateur use. Improved keying, parasitic debugging and harmonic suppression.

## "QST," JULY, 1950

- P. 111 "An Assembly for C.W. Reception;" G. Grammer, W1DF—An antenna limiter for moving the neutrums.
- P. 14 "All-Drive Arrays;" W. M. Andrew, W5AN—For those who are fed up with parasitic beams. Includes the best of the field.
- P. 19 "An All-Band Crystal-Controlled Exciter;" L. A. Leung, W3CQT—6AQ7 oscillator, 6L6 buffer-doubler.
- P. 20 "Basic Operating Procedure;" B. Goodman, W1DX, Part I, Radio Telegraphy—"Everyone can profit by reading this."
- P. 21 "Tuned Upset: How to Visualize a Phase Signal;"—Sugar coated discussion on sidebands, modulation, i.s.c. and other similar topics.
- P. 11: "Radiator Length and the Gamma Match;"—Points out that the Gamma match can only give low a.w.r. if the antenna is tuned to resonance. It appears that the Gamma match is now reactive, i.e., the usual formulae for element lengths apply.
- P. 24 "Cool Design for Link-Coupled Circuits;" K. A. Pullen—Simple method for determining proper circuit constants.
- P. 29 "More Effective Speech Amplification;" T. W. Shefford, W5HOL—Shaped frequency response plus a.c. compression.
- P. 28 "Hits and Kinks;" (i) Combined class A amplifier and antenna, (ii) Non-shit bag vacuum, (iii) Crystal calibrator, and r.f. indicator (iv) Band-passed for the VFK885 (v) Tapping small coils, (vi) Improving vacuum tube filament resistor (vii) Home-built air dielectric co-axial lines.

## "CQ," JULY, 1950

- P. 15 "The Low Frequency Discone;" M. Seybold, W5WY—Discone antenna cut for 11 Mc. Gives flat match to 10 dbm co-ax feed from 11 to over 85 Mc.
- P. 29 "Under-the-Dash Mobile Transmitter for 75 Metre Pierce Oscillator;" C. M. Lowrey, W4EER—6C4 Pierce oscillator, 6AQ5 r.f. final, 6AQ4 speech amplifier, 6AQ5 modulator.
- P. 28 "The Secret Weapon!" H. J. Hancock, W5KMS—40 and 80 metre transmitter-receiver in 1 x 7 x 14 inch case.
- P. 23 "Increasing the Versatility of the Collins 32V Transmitter;" W. L. Orr, W5EAL.
- P. 33 "A Modulator for the Medium-Power 32V Transmitter;" P. Johnson—40 watts of audio from class B 24G5.

## "RADIO AND TELEVISION NEWS," JULY, 1950

- P. 39 "Oscilloscope for R.F.;" G. Dexter—Moon light indicator for SSB without any oscilloscope.
- P. 46 "A V.T.V.M. for A.C.-D.C.-R.F.;" E. P. Turner, K6AL—Battery operated using 104 volt-meter tube and 1A5 diode rectifier.
- P. 46: "Simplified Ham TV Station," Part 3; J. H. Popkin, CLEAF—Describes modulator,

crystal controlled 480 Mc. transmitter, power supply and receiver.

- P. 53 "Tis "Sunodget" Transmitter;" M. E. Lowe, W5NBP—Super modulation transmitter using two 813s in final.
- P. 57: "An Inexpensive Grid Dip Oscillator;" W. Y. Young, W5WOT—Uses 1-44 tube with plug-in matched coils. Uses electron ray tube as indicator.

## "QST," AUGUST, 1950

- P. 11: "Better Results on 420 Mc.;" E. P. Tilson, W1EJD—Receiver and transmitter ideas for the U.K. experimenter.
- P. 16 "Basic Operating Procedure;" E. P. Tilson, W1EJD, Part II, Radio Telegraphy.
- P. 19 "A Tunable 75 Metre Mobile Antenna;" C. Buff, W2AHS—Inductive loading coil in centre of the mast.
- P. 24 "A Two-Control V.F.O. Rig with Bandpass Exciter, Part I.;" C. V. Chambers, W1WZQ—120 watts to 829B, f.m. or a.w., 80 to 100 metres. Many ideas for those who like to QST and jump bands with the minimum of effort.
- P. 30 "A Two-Tube Crystal Controlled Converter for 20 Metres;" C. J. Packer, W6P7Y—6AK5 r.f., 6J6 mixer, harmonic crystal oscillator.
- P. 52: "A Mobile Converter for 144 Mc.;" P. R. Band, W1DWM—6AK5 r.f., 6J6 mixer, 6C4 VFO.
- P. 45: "Hits and Kinks;" (i) Adapting the co-ax w.r. meter for 300 ohm twin lead (ii) Audio filter connection, (iii) Home-made insulators from salvaged medical gear.
- P. 46 "T.V.I. Time;" (i) High pass filters (ii) A co-ax filter.

## "CQ," AUGUST, 1950

- P. 11: "How to Neutralize Your Single Ended Tetrode Final;" W. B. Bruene, W5TTC—Capacity bridge neutralization for 897, 813, etc., plus a special trick for 813s by using the beam forming plates for neutralizing. Name idea can be used to neutralize receiver I.F. stages if they want to take off.
- P. 14 "Gain Without Headaches;" C. E. Farr—Use of the Wollman cascade circuit.
- P. 1: "W5EQQ Gulch Another Beam;" H. H. Briar, W5WQD—Three element 80 metre and four element 10 metre beams interlaced.
- P. 20: "CQ Teles the Lyova Transmitter;" A. E. Hays, W5BTP—Comments on comments. 83 watt transmitter, 6AG7 v.f.o., 6AG7 buffer, 897 final, band switched 160 to 100 metres.
- P. 22 "Use Your 304T's;" E. P. Bonner W6RLA.
- P. 24 "SCR274N Transmitter Modifications;" J. V. Whitaker, W5RPA—Three I.F. alterations for making these popular disposals firms suitable for Amateur operation.
- P. 29: "Building a Non-Dryed Steel Tower;" D. L. Johnson, W5TJ.
- P. 31 "Real Audio Selectivity Using Standard Parts;" L. P. Fleming—Three section LO filter with small power filter choke.

## "RADIO AND TELEVISION NEWS," AUGUST, 1950

- P. 29: "Radio Control of Model Boats;" W. L. North, W1GER—Very simple radio control equipment.
- P. 48: "A Simple Noise Limiter;" R. P. Haviland—1N34 and 6.6 meg. resistor connected across audio load resistor of the second detector.
- P. 42: "Voltage Regulation for Higher Fidelity;" J. C. Beaudry—Good article on V.R. power supplies.
- P. 51: "A Compact Amateur Band Superhete;" R. D. Zimmerman, W5KOW—3.5 to 34 Mc. plug-in coils. Twin triode mixer, 1,600 Kc. IF.
- P. 51: "Complets 30 Watt Ham Station;" S. Johnson, W5LEY—Transmitter 6L6 c.a., Receiver 6X8 mixer, 6SN7 signal detector and audio.
- P. 55 "Home Built 2 inch Oscilloscope;" J. B. Anderson, W5UPE—Usual simple c.r.o.

## "CQ," SEPTEMBER, 1950

- P. 12: "Building and Using the Antennascope;" W. M. Scherer, W5AEP—The Antennascope can be used to determine antenna resistance and reactance, to match transmission lines for minimum a.w.r., find receiver input impedance and other r.f. measurements. Consists of a simple resistance bridge and looks like an extremely valuable instrument round the shack.
- P. 10: "Push-Button Control Circuit;" W. Waite, W5QDQ, and G. Grand, W5AHE.
- P. 26: "How to Build an Operating Console;" C. A. West, W3WYO.
- P. 24 "Simplifying on Six;" C. O. Bishop, W5HEA—6J6 oscillator-mixer with RD-or type input matching and 3 Mc. IF output.
- P. 25: "PI Network Tank Circuits;" E. W. Pappefus, W5WYF, and E. L. Klippel, W5Q60—The good old on the adjustment of pi networks.
- P. 34 "Four-Band Mobile Rig;" E. Bumbaugh, W6B—Uses 813 final and 815 modulator, covers 80, 40, 20 and 10 metres.

## "QST," SEPTEMBER, 1950

- P. 11: "Crystal Controlled Converters for V.H.F. Use;" K. P. Tilson, W1EJD, and C. V. Chambers, W1WZQ—Low noise converting for 10, 6 and 2 metres, using cascade circuit in push-pull 6J6 circuit.
- P. 17: "The Mountaineer—A Hiker's Portable;" R. W. Vreeland, W5TBT—Light weight dry battery 80 metre transmitter-receiver.
- P. 20: "Another Inductive Coupling System for Rotary Beams;" R. E. Momma, W5GOL.
- P. 25: "A Simple Vacuum-Operated Kayser for Automatic Break-In Operation;" J. L. Planagan, W1BJT.
- P. 29 "A Two-Control V.F.O. Rig with Bandpass Exciter, Part II.;" C. V. Chambers, W1WZQ.
- P. 34 "Safety and Commonness in Transmitters;" N. K. Bels, W5PZ2—Classical construction with components mounted on panels. Panels hinged on rack opening forward to allow access from the front of the rack.
- P. 35 "A New Crystal Q5-Arr;" R. A. Tilt, G6CJM3—Better selectivity from a two-crystal circuit.
- P. 40 "Working DX;" B. Goodman, W1DX.
- P. 44 "Push-Button Power Control Circuits;" A. W. Hanson, W6PUL.

# Low Drift Crystals FOR AMATEUR BANDS

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CANTERBURY, E.7,  
VICTORIA

# FEDERAL, QSL, and DIVISIONAL NOTES

Federal President: W. R. GRONOW (VK3GQ); Federal Secretary: G. M. HULL (VK3ZB), Box 2631W, G.P.O., Melbourne.

## NEW SOUTH WALES

President.—J. Corbin, VK2YF.  
Secretary.—David H. Duff (VK3RO), Box 1784  
G.P.O., Sydney

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Sts., Sydney.

Divisional Sub-Editor.—A. O. Pearce, VK3ABR,  
131A Balmain Rd., Leichhardt, N.W.  
Zone Correspondents.—Mrs. Conal & Tablelands: J.  
M. Ratzliff, VK3XO, Raleigh, Newcastle;  
H. Whyte, VK3ABA, Yale St., Birmingham  
Gardens, Newcastle; Coalfields and Lahn:  
H. Wicks, VK3YV, 27 Confort Ave., Coo-  
coorua, Western; W. H. Britt, VK3WU, Cam-  
bergo, Forbes; South Coast and South-  
ern, E. H. Rayner, VK3DO, 48 Pettit St., Yass;  
Western Suburbs: A. O. Pearce, VK3ABR, 131A  
Balmain Rd., Leichhardt, Eastern Suburbs:  
D. R. Brock, VK3NO, 40 Yanko Avenue,  
Lavender, North Sydney; D. Coffe, VK3AJ,  
779 Military Rd. Mosman; St. George: J. A.  
Ackerman, VK3AJG, 59 Park Rd., Carlton;  
South Sydney: V. H. Wilson, VK3YV, Cr. Wil-  
son St. and Marine Pde, Maroubra.

## VICTORIA

President.—G. S. C. Semmens, VK3GS.  
Secretary.—C. Dyer (VK3DY), 19 Collingwood Ave.,  
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Administrative Secretary.—Mrs. S. May, Law Court  
Chambers, 181 Queen St., Melbourne, G.I.

Meeting Night—First Wednesday of each month at  
the Radio School, Melbourne Technical College.

Zone Correspondents.—Western: C. O. Waring,  
VK3YV, 15 St. John St., Stawell; E. & S.  
O. Morke, VK3AKL, Kilgrew, Westmore,  
North Eastern: J. E. Tennant, 18 Harold  
St., Shepparton, Far North Western: J. Sale,  
101 Lennox Ave., Mildura; Eastern: H. O. Ed-  
les, VK3ABR, Tannamora; North Western: C.  
Case, VK3ACE, Cumming Ave., Burchip.

## FEDERAL

### F.E. DISCUSSIONS WITH P.M.G. DEPARTMENT

Federal Convention items from the 1930 Conven-  
tion concerning the Postmaster-General's Department  
are listed herewith together with the records arising  
from discussions between Federal Executive and the  
Department.

Item 27: That Federal Executive approach the  
P.M.G.'s Department for permission to play back  
recorded 30 Mc. and higher transmissions on those  
bands. Result: The Licensee of any Amateur Station  
may, in the Amateur frequency bands of 60 Mc. and  
upwards, record and re-transmit transmissions from  
other stations, provided that the recording is made in  
the bands of 60 Mc. and upwards, and is capable  
of producing recordings of high quality. Re-  
transmissions made at the request of an individual  
station to be transmitted to a particular listening  
area in the aggregate in any one day.

Item 28: That representations be made to the  
P.M.G.'s Department for permission to record by  
mobile technicians some transmissions of Amateur Stations  
and play back over the air on frequencies to be  
advised by the Department. Result: The Depart-  
ment agrees that the number of permits now issued  
in the various States to record and re-transmit the  
emissions from Amateur Wireless Stations operating  
in the Amateur frequency bands below 50 Mc. shall  
be increased to allow the licensee of the number  
of permits up to 10 in New South Wales and Vic-  
toria, and 5 in each of the other States. Permits  
will be issued by such Superintendents to Institute  
members and non-members in the various States  
as the Amateur Advisory Committee personnel in  
the relevant State, but where it is found that in-  
sufficient bona-fide members are available, the  
Superintendent concerned will be authorized to under-  
take recordings and re-transmissions of Amateur  
transmissions on frequencies up to 50 Mc. to bona-fide  
members. Institute nonmembers will be appointed by  
the Superintendent concerned after recommendation  
by the State body of the Institute.

Item 29: That the P.M.G.'s Department be  
approached for permission to transmit music on Type  
A3 standard emission for experimental purposes  
on sections of the 60 Mc. band and higher. Result:  
The Department was unable to accede to the request.

Item 31: That the P.M.G.'s Department be  
approached with a request that all licensees in the

## WI BROADCASTS

All Amateurs are urged to keep these fre-  
quencies clear during, and for a period of 15  
minutes after, the official Broadcasts.

VK2WI—Sundays, 1100 hours EST, 7195 Kc.  
and 2000 hours EST 60 and 144 Mc. No  
frequency checks available from VK3WI  
intra-State working frequency, 7175 Kc.

VK3OWI—Sundays, 1130 hours EST, simultane-  
ously on 3530 and 7195 Kc. and re-broad-  
cast on 50 and 144 Mc. bands. Intra-State  
working frequency 7185 Kc. Individual  
frequency checks of Amateur Stations given  
when VK3WI is on the air.

VK4WI—Sundays, 0900 hours E.S.T. simultane-  
ously on 3700 Kc., 7195 Kc., 14435 Kc.,  
52 Kc. and 144.135 Mc. Frequency  
checks are given two nights weekly, and  
the times are announced during Sunday  
broadcasts. 7065 Kc. channel is used from  
1000 to 1040 hours each Sunday as VK4  
query service to VK4WI.

VK5WI—Sundays, 1000 hours SAST, on 7195  
Kc. Frequency checks are given by VK5WD  
by arrangement only on the 7 and 14 Mc.  
bands.

VK6WI—Sundays, 0930 hours WAST, on 7195  
Kc. No frequency checks available.

VK7WI—Sundays at 1000 hours E.S.T. on  
7195 Kc. No frequency checks are available.

Northern Territory be allotted the prior YES.  
Result: For reasons previously explained, this re-  
quest was disallowed.

Item 36: That Federal Executive be asked to  
endeavour to speed up the allocation of the 21 Mc.  
band and view of that commercial  
interference on the 7 and 14 Mc. bands. Result:  
Preliminary implementation of the Atlantic City Fre-  
quency List, the Department is unable to take  
action.

Item 35: That Federal Executive approach the  
P.M.G.'s Department for permission to broadcast  
from the Institute stations, talks of a technical  
nature such as those given at monthly meetings.  
Result: As an extension of the existing approval is  
given for each of the weekly broadcasts in each  
month to include technical talks, the total duration  
of which shall not exceed 30 minutes.

Item 35: That the P.M.G.'s Department be ap-  
proached to extend automatic permission for por-  
table operation to the 27 Mc. band. Result: For  
the reasons explained to representatives, the De-  
partment could not agree. (The main reason arising  
from the discussion between Federal Executive and  
the Department was that the Department feel justified  
in knowing where and when a portable station is  
in operation should it be necessary for them  
to contact the station in the event of interference  
to commercial channels. Despite the fact that  
operators, under the regulations, must sign their  
call and location at least once every five minutes,  
the Department was unable to grant automatic  
permission for portable operation it would be difficult

## QUEENSLAND

President.—J. F. Pickles, VK3FF.  
Secretary.—W. L. Stevens, VK4TB, Box 882,  
G.P.O., Brisbane.

Meeting Night—Third Friday in each month at the  
I.R.C. Rooms, Wickham St., Valley.  
Divisional Sub-Editor.—Oliver J. Cook, VK4CO,  
Evan Street, Chelmside, Brisbane.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

President.—E. A. Barber, VK3MD.  
Secretary.—G. M. Bowen, VK3XU, Box 1384K,  
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Meeting Night—Second Tuesday of each month at  
17 Weymouth St., Adelaide.  
Divisional Sub-Editor—W. W. Parsons, VK3PS,  
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Secretary.—W. E. Cusum, VK3AO, Howard St.,  
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Church, and King St. and Perth.  
Meeting Night—Third Tuesday of each month.  
Divisional Sub-Editor.—Alec A. Smith, VK3AS,  
75 Weston St., Carlisle, Western Australia.

## TASMANIA

President.—J. Brown, VK3TJ.  
Secretary.—H. D. O'May, VK3OM, Box 471B,  
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Meeting Night.—First Wednesday of each month at  
the Photographic Society's Rooms, 168 Liver-  
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Divisional Sub-Editor.—S. Knell (VK7SJ), 77 Miller  
Street, Hobart, Tasmania.

Northern Zone Correspondent.—R. H. Kilby, VK3ER,  
8 Galvin Street, Launceston.

to police the bands where out-of-band operation or  
commercial interference may require them to do so.  
—Federal Secretary.)

Item 36: That representations be made to the  
P.M.G.'s Department for permission to operate trans-  
mission under portable conditions without applying  
for a portable license, in any frequency band.  
Result: The Department was unable to accede to  
the request. (The reasons are in the terms of Item  
35 above.)

Item 40: That approval be sought from the  
P.M.G.'s Department for the use of an identifying  
signal by Amateurs conducting emergency traffic.  
The signal to have the significance: "I am con-  
ducting emergency traffic; please do not cause inter-  
ference." The Department was unable to accede to  
the request. (The reasons are in the terms of Item  
35 above.)

## PERMITS TO RECORD AND RE-PLAY

The following Amateur Wireless Station Licensees  
in the various States have been granted permission  
to record and re-play transmissions from other Am-  
ateur Stations during the twelve months ending 1st  
September, 1931—

N.S.W.: No applications received.  
V.I.C.: VK3TV, Dr. E. Marks, Malvern; VK3DR,  
Mr. J. Morgan, Hawthorn; VK3PD, Mr. W. A.  
Brownhill, Geelong; VK3EP, Mr. H. S. Fuller,  
Warrnambool; VK3TA, Mr. R. V. Hardinge, Horsham.  
Queensland: No applications were received.  
South Australia: VK3GK, Mr. C. Tibbock, Colonel  
Light Gardens; VK3LE, Mr. Holman, Dulley Park.  
Western Australia: VK3KW, Mr. R. W. S. Hugo,  
Sulaco; VK3ZS, Mr. J. Spinks, Sulaco.  
Tasmania: No applications were received.

## APPLICANTS FOR DX C.C. PLEASE NOTE

Prospective members of the DX C.C. are reminded  
that the cards submitted to the DX C.C. Manager  
for checking are to be in alphabetical order of  
CODES. Also that the cards should show the  
call sign of station worked, date, frequency, and  
type of transmission must also be submitted.

## W.I.A. ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Dec. 2-3: Fourth All-European DX Com-  
petition, 1930-30s.

Dec. 24-25: Ross A. Hull Memorial  
Trophy V.H.F. Contest.

Dec. 18: Nations for 21st Convention due  
with Divisional Councils.

Jan. 19: Convention Nations due in to Fed-  
eral Executive.

Jan. 27-28: W.I.A. Nat. Field Day Contest.

Jan. 31: Membership Roll of each Division  
due with F.E.

Feb. 3-4: B.E.R.U. Contest—Phone.

Feb. 24-25: B.E.R.U. Contest—C.W.

Feb. 28: Convention Par-Capita due with  
F.E.; end of Fiscal Year of Division.

March 3-4: B.E.R.U. Contest—C.W.

## SUCCESSFUL A.O.C.P. CANDIDATES

The following is a list of candidates who were successful at the examination for the Amateur Operator's Certificate held on Tuesday, 10th October, 1950:

### New South Wales:

Aspery, R. J., 124 Charles Street, Ryde.  
Dunford, R. G., 10th Street, Coomalabar.  
Hansen, M. A., Ryan Avenue, West Kempsey.  
Nowell, E. W., 100 Orphan Street, Hurstville Park.  
Rushby, A. W., c/o Mr. F. Cracknell, Lumsdane Street, Pictou.  
Shearman, J. A., 183 Douglas Street, Stockton.  
Smith, R. R., Cr. Glipse and Colura Streets, Dubbo.  
Taverner, P. A., 88 Prince Street, Randwick.  
Taylor, W. D., 14 Foster Street, Stockton.  
Thomas, B. W., 2 Ravilish Avenue, Wahroonga.

### Victoria:

Akram, M. R.A.A.P. Air and Ground Radio School, R.A.A.P. Ballarat.  
Barnes, P. D., 14 Dendy Street, Middle Brighton, S.E.  
Capers, R. F., 12 Bloomfield Court, E. Brighton, S.E.  
Cutless, J. E., 14 Francis Street, Werribee.  
Collins, M. G., 16 Nelson Street, Werribee.  
Lawless, L. G., 18 Hall Street, West Brunswick.  
McNabb, R. L., Newstead.  
Power, J. R., "The Shack," Birdwood via Mildura.

### Queensland:

Atkinson, J. A., Cr. Meade and Western Streets, Wandall, Rockhampton.  
Greenwood, K. E., c/o Department of Works and Housing, Box 250, Rockhampton.  
Wheatley, H. J., East Street, Clifton.

### South Australia:

Caldwell, W. O., N.T. Comd. Big Spn. Mito, Darwin.  
Cocke, B. W., R.A.A.P. Station, Darwin.  
Dow, M. R., 80 Alexandria Street, Prospect.  
Neale, J. B., 8 Deacon Avenue, Marleston.  
Schulz, D. J., 44 Janet Street, Maryland.  
Smith, B. C. W., 22 Jervois Street, Torrensville.

### Western Australia:

Dewett, H. R., 80 View Street, Albany.

### Tasmania:

Kirmse, A. G., Flat 2, 10 Frederick St., Launceston.

## ADDITIONS, ALTERATIONS, AND DELETIONS TO AMATEUR CALL SIGNS—OCTOBER, 1950

### Additions—

VK1RM—R. S. Sargent, 64 William Rd., Carlton.  
2ACK—J. A. McKay, "Alamy," Boundary Rd., Tweed Heads.  
2AQP—H. P. Towell, 16 Stewart St., Artarmon.  
2ASA—W. A. Symons, 53 Edden St., Ainslie, A.C.T.  
2ATB—R. Hamber, 41 Hamilton St., Lane Cove.  
2AVS—R. V. Southwood, 103 Liverpool St., Sydney.  
2AWY—W. O. Yates, 25 Thomas St., Orange.  
2AXM—W. A. McDuff, 125 Mainland Rd., Mayfield, Newcastle.  
VK5ADD—C. O. Donnell, 11 Chesser St., Murrumbidgee.  
3AZE—G. B. Richmond, Golden Vale, Willoughby.  
3AHS—H. J. Albrecht, 10 Belgrave Ave., Box Hill North.  
VK1JG—J. J. Gallagher, c/o Radio Station 4CA, Melbourne.  
4LA—A. G. Smith, Wallone Road, Amberley.  
4PT—O. R. F. Paton, 3 Jennings St., Toowoomba.  
VK6HE—H. V. Eastwood, 23 South Pde., Darlington.  
4DM—C. W. Meach, R.A.A.P. Station, Darwin.  
VK6BS—B. H. Smith, Avon 19401 or 19400, Mannamanning.  
6JA—J. A. Cook, 70 Angle St., South Perth.  
VK9NY—J. M. Harrison, c/o A.W.A. Ltd., Aviation Service Depot (Aerodrome, Las. T.R.O.).

**Alterations—**  
VK3BP—89 Barrow Street, Birrong.  
2MB—51 Watson Street, Bondi.  
2XS—50 Spotsford Street, Cremorne.  
2ADG—8 Timmins St., Birmingham Gardens.  
2AE—Rothsay, 141 William Street, Young.  
2AFJ—"Forest Glades," Yorkins Ave. St. Ives.  
2AGJ—9 Sylvia Rd., Sylvia Heights.  
2AGE—9 Pleasant Ave., Wollongong.  
2AKT—4 Elmista Rd., Moca Vale.  
2ALG—Rourke Street, Parramatta.  
2ANW—109 Crown Street, Wollongong.  
2ANC—Post Office Road, Orlingford.  
2ABO—6 Gore Street, Arncliffe.  
2ABE—188 Eastern Valley Way, Castlereagh.  
2AVO—8 Smith Street, Wollongong.

VK2SO—55 Jordan Street, Malvern.  
3TY—c/o BTH, Sale.  
3TZ—c/o Colm Pharmacy, 95 Main St., Stawell.  
3ZO—Flat 7, 40 Manningham St., Parkville.  
3ADT—53 Deakin St., Essendon West.  
2AJZ—A. J. Smith, 443 Waverley Rd., North Camberley.  
2AWB—668 Bell Street, Preston.  
VK4HC—Cr Sandgate Road and Eton St., Nunah.  
4QA—2 Lilly Street, Toowoomba.  
4BY—34 Jamieson Street, Bulimba.  
VK3CD—33 Kitchener Street, Kilburn.  
3CB—460 Melbourn Ter., Whyalla (P.O. Box 107).  
3KB—D.C.A. Aerodrome, Mount Gambler.  
3KU—Stephens Road, Mount Gambler.  
VK6B—23 Grand Promenade, Raywater.  
6FL—"Hillcrest," Gooseberry Hill.

### Deletions—

VK2HD—Cancelled.  
2AX—Cancelled.  
2ANV—Cancelled, now operating under VK9NY.  
2ABR—Cancelled, now operating under VK1JG.  
VK3ACP—Cancelled, now operating under VK1ACK.  
VK1BC—Cancelled.  
453—Cancelled, now operating under VK2AVS.  
4WY—Cancelled, now operating under VK1AY.  
VK5QJ—Cancelled.  
8SA—Cancelled, now operating under VK6ASA.

## FEDERAL QSL BUREAU

RAY JONES, VK3RJ, MANAGER

And yet another for the certificate hunters. The A.R.L.C. (Association of Radio Amateurs of Las Villas), Cuba, gives a Certificate or Diploma to all foreign amateurs who have worked the eight radio districts of Cuba. The QSO may be in c.w. or phone on any band and a v.l.c. may also claim the award. Forward your eight QSLs to Box 188, Santa Clara, Cuba. The eight districts are as follows: Pinar del Rio, City of Havana, Province of Havana, Isle de Pines, Province of Matanzas, Province of Las Villas, Province of Camaguey, and Province of Oriente. Baudine signing CO work c.w. and phone all bands (Class A); stations signing OM work c.w. on all bands, but phone only on 7 Mc. (Class B); CMB is not a district. It is a prefix allotted for purely experimental work.



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to move to Charlestown very soon; what about coming to our meeting and meet the gang?

Up at Maitland, 2KQ has his emergency rig, the 1110, being very I.B. now—he really did enjoy the "Scramble" from all accounts. The November sked of the emergency net went off OK. DX hound, 2DG, went into the contest too, finishing up with a good score. 2ANL is now active on 6-10-10 40-40 using 247 signals are very strong in Newcastle, especially on 80. 2ANL hopes to get going on 2 soon, meanwhile, is doing very well on 5 with an 80 signal in Newcastle using des. power. 2TV has a private line to 2H6 on 10, having had over 100 QSOs with one particular K8H. 2JY still seems to be active on 30, but does well on that band. 2AKP at East Maitland is very QRL, but hopes to get on 6 shortly. 2AHA exchanged a few numbers in the "Scramble". A very merry Xmas to all W.L.A. members from the Hunter Branch boys.

#### COALFIELDS AND LAKES

Most interesting during the past month was centred around the Hunter Branch "Scramble", many stations in the mine took part. Many a story will be told of the way the 50 and 144 Mc. boys stuck to their bands and put up good scores. 2OG, 2YL and 2ADT worked every possible 50 Mc. station in the contest. 2ADT was the only station to concentrate on 144 Mc. work and had contacts with seven stations in Singleton, Newcastle, Kurri Kurri, Cessnock and Lochinvar. 2YU finally made 3 metres by contacting 2ADT using a four element beam. 2KF has an 80 rig on 144 Mc., goes quite well with 400v. at 60 Ma. 2KE rescued his 3 metre beam from foul house. 2TV re-appeared on 2 after a short absence of six months, while 2FE made time to have a QSO.

2ANU still doing remarkably well with his 4 watts, had several 50 Mc. test contacts, at present is building up 2 metre gear. 2YU, one of the consistent ones on 5 and looking forward to the summer DX. Battling hard to finish cupboard bulging before DX breaks. 2EP putting out a consistent 2 metre beam, but has been absent for some time. If you visit BO, admitted to 2EP that he couldn't more for wire. Only heard 2VO on 10. 2FE fairly close now with a converted AT6 for some of the lower frequencies. 2ALR at present not active. 2YL working all bands a little and has got himself on 2. Works 2ADT with a dipole in a shack. 2GA is going on 3 and 6, has a good antenna 6 here in the C-field. 2BU seems to be laying low waiting to pounce on any 5 DX that may show up. 2RR is working on 6 meeting his locals, but not heard here on Coalfields.

#### WESTERN ISLES

With the floods out west, the members of the zone have been busy in some way or work at sea. Officer, 2WR, is isolated once again—no mail—for about the twentieth time this year. In Orange, 2LX has put his AT20 on 6 and 2JW spent 4 months on 144 listening and calling, but no results. Lost his 144 beam in a blow and will be on 6 soon. In the Blue Mountains, stations are not very active. 2LV specialising in 247, the line-up at present: 15 Kc to 2,000 Kc a R.C.A. marine job. Phillips No. 4 reception set 1.2 to 20 Mc., HRO 100 Kc to 20 Mc. and SET 87 to 145 Mc. and an ASV Kc for 144 Mc.—just the bare five, 2Ks' 80 foot telegraph pole for the 6 beam went up recently. 2EV and 2AF, both Arara ops, are active on 20 and 40 when home. 2LE finished the garage and now started the house. The 1F was very surprised, didn't think the OM would ever make a builder. Oth remember he built a "Queen Mary" once, a receiver five feet long! 2PI doing a little on 7 Mc. 2HE still busy on the shack between planting spuds, 2L still working in the garden too, would like to get on 10 again and annoy the Ws during the day.

#### SOUTH COAST AND SOUTHERN

Mr. Reg George, associate member of Cookamurra, has forwarded along notes for this edition. Within two days of the broadcast from 2WJ suggesting that associate members could help the zone officer in collecting notes, we had a letter from Reg offering a helping hand. 2APP active on 40, having a yarn over the back fence with 2TU and 2BY in Forbes. Much discussion on doubler coils, 101s and 250 power supply. Ray BU, that 101 must have been altered if it had a 8V6 in it. 2ARL doing a spot on 40, excellent sig seems to be giving place. 2TV active on 40 and 2GS. Len has worked a 2RT on 80. Believe a beam crimp into the discussion between 2PI and 2PM—what band fellows? Not 144? 2RM heard on 40 running 100 watts, 8 meter won't go round more than twice Harry. The reported speech quality is very good—guess you must have put some granules in the mike.

2OY burning holes in 40, heard working North Coast stations; little bird tells me your YF won't allow QRL cards to be mailed on the lounge room wall. Jack. 2OS on 40 with nice signal from n.b.f.m.—very pleasing quality. 2AOX laying down steel signal on 40 and has some QSOs on 80; rig has been re-built. 2DY, President of the "Dong Club", is active under his own call. The 2YL is

quickly adapting herself to the Ham bands and was heard yarning to her heart's content. 2AER and 2DY had visions of illegal transmitter, etc., on one QSO, but things sorted themselves out to their satisfaction. 2AMW and 2VP also putting forth mighty signals. Bill uses the c.w. to raise DX on 40. Only Wagsa station heard, struck some heavy QRM and not much to report other than it was 2AOP Nil from 2JQ, believe he will be moving to Junee at the end of November. 2ADX active on 80. 2ALR has acquired a Kc bearing the mark 4X38, 15 valve no loss and all the refinements. A great improvement was noticed when an extra r.f. stage was added to the ARS, on 1850 doing a fine job. 2DO made a comeback on 40 and had a few words with the boys during a home-to-lunch session.

#### VICTORIA

The November monthly meeting was held at the Radio School, Bowen St., Melbourne, on Wednesday, 1st November. The attendance was good despite the transport difficulties, there being approximately 150 members present. The President (368) occupied the chair and declared the meeting open at 2000 hours. The usual minutes were read and confirmed and then the President called on the guest speaker of the evening, Mr. Len Jackson, to talk on the ever-absorbing subject—antennae. Len opened his remarks with a brief description of a simple dipole and then proceeded through all types of aerials, right up to the series phased arrays. Numerous questions were fired at Len and the President had to call time, so as to get the rest of the business finished.

A short interval was taken and upon resumption of the meeting the usual reports were given. The most important item was the 45th Anniversary celebration arrangements. By the time this appears in print, the celebrations will be all over. The Secretary reminded members that agenda items for the next Federal Convention should be sent in by the December meeting. The Treasurer's report, as read by the Secretary, disclosed a good balance at the Bank. After a few items of general discussion, the President closed the meeting at 1230 hours.

2ARA and 2YS look very fit after their holiday in VKZ. 2JO still worried about his 915. 2IM very busy with exams. 2LP had trouble with one of his poles, cracked. Group were 2M2, 2OY nearly got strangled when his key wire came down. 2BE very QRL with DX C.C. claims. 2KE traps

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you know that 4AN now in Brisbane, is ex-GALCUD? Believe it or not, he is now in 40 metres. It was him who set 4RQ of Longreach at the last meeting as a victor. 4RT now sports a four element beam, guess he will be too proud to talk to the cross-towers DX now as a matter of fact I haven't yet heard John on the 20 metre band, which reminds me I often wonder what he became of my old pal, 4OJ. Haven't heard him for months.

4OX is contemplating installing a voice-operated transmitter for quite a while after a delay of four weeks, but 4WO reckons that Claude's transmitter will never go in the 4's in that class. I wonder what made 4WO suddenly decide to go on the two air again. Perhaps the novelty of a new car is starting to wear off.

How on earth 4AH gets into all the strife he does and comes out laughing I never know. His latest is a 4.5 mV YP compensated that 4E was getting a "bit of an electrical shock" when she was hanging out the wires. "Doc" investigated and thought it must have been some of the stray I'd said he was transmitting; he has more than he wants. Anyhow he smartly altered his decision when he commenced to climb the tower and found that he had turned a few vertebrae and backflips. It appears that "Doc's" beam is related with an electric m for and, in keeping with modern trends, he has a 240 volt earthed relay transmitter up top as well. Naturally he has to get the juice up to it via wires—you may guess it, the wires shorted during a wind (didn't he say the fuses—must be nuts) and touched the tower (can't be earthed). The latter is of metal construction so naturally the clothes line which is attached to it would become quite a lethal weapon. Hope you can make sense of all the above, but it may serve as a warning of what might have happened.

#### "CLARE'S CORNER"

4UX is back on the air again chasing the DX after a complete rebuild; Claude is also the proud possessor of a Heinkel SX28. 4AH has built himself a new tower which from all accounts is a super-duper. 4MD not active lately owing to proximity of examinations, best of luck Mick and no doubt you will make up for it when they are all over. Have you heard 4HP on 40 as usual; is it the lounge suite or the 800s Noel?

4CC is quite a photographer, get a very much about it; his wife will be able to drag him along to see "Gone With The Wind". Since Clare had his break up, he has been a little sceptical about it and even took some photographs before putting it on the pole. Anyway, it is all up to you. Good job—Clare. (JFP must have been worried too—

he arrived at my place with four bags of cement and a lot of wire posts—grahs. Thanks Jack—Sub-Editor.)

#### DARLING DOWNS ZONE

Zone activities for the past month have been just the usual run-of-the-mill affairs with one chap working the other for absolutely no reason at all. Conditions generally have improved, particularly on 14, where the band has been exceptionally good at night with the onset of summer conditions. Some excellent signals have been heard.

4IO and 4JF have been getting out very nicely with creditable phone signals for newcomers to the Ham ranks. Often think it's queer that 60 metres has so few stations in this zone. The Five Fours (the "little" group) have been playing around with 50 Mc and 4U has already Q-Qed 4RZ. Likewise 4RZ and 4TY have had some contacts. 4CL, 4XN and 4RZ have weekly (sometimes daily) drops in the wee small hours round 7.80 a.m. An amazing display of stamina for boys of their age. 9.30 a.m. is a nice time for breakfast in any house.

Lots of nice DX coming through on 14 Mc. Late at night—midnight on Europeans in scores, Africa, Latin and South American. We heard all continents in the course of one swish round the band and all over 35. VK1PD (ex-4PD) is an regular around 12.00 G.M.T. 14150 150 Mc looking for VK contacts. Then 28 waits to a rhombic. Notice the local emergency net is slipping—some new ideas required along with a re-evaluation of personnel and a change of policy with regard to equipment. The silly business of having to have portable gear, wipers and an all flimsy in policy promoted for the benefit of the community—not the self-glorification of the selected few.

#### TOWNSVILLE ZONE

4EJ now very active due to newly acquired boat, but talking about installing gear in same. 4LD fairly active on 14 and 28 Mc, nice quality phone and a few clean c.w. 4GJ often heard on late in the evening with a nice signal and the 4TY good phone signals from Bill, seems to use 14 and 7 Mc quite a lot and does well too; he put up a good score at the Queensland Day Contest.

4JL, when not too busy writing DX notes, finds time to work a bit of DX on 14 Mc. He also put up a good score in the Q.D. Contest. 4HX heard with a nice quality phone when time permits. 4WH very active on 14 Mc and often heard knocking them over in the afternoon, heard doing well in the VK ZL Contest. 4EL, well I have at last made my electronic bag and very pleased with it.

Still keep up my motto of "A European a Day," although it is generally a dose. Still trying to find arrays, Lazy H is the best with Outliner neat.

#### SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The monthly general meeting for the VK6 Division took the form of a "Buy, Sell, or Swap" evening, and to say that it was a huge success would be classed as an understatement. Everybody came along to see the junk as they called it, and everybody said it was a very sophisticated manner. You don't catch me falling for any of it, just certainly they didn't fall for it, they crashed, but long into it. The associate members practically fought with each other for the privilege of bidding against each other and one youngster pressed his bid number asperse without anybody bidding against him. Anyway, it was a wonderful night, and the master of ceremonies, 4BY, did more than his share to make the night a success. 5HP left the meeting loaded like a pack horse with all the radio gear in the world. One associate member

is to buy a taxi to take a flat he had bought, but the look on his face as he proudly displayed his spoils made me an old timer. What then he would receive the first shock of his enthusiasm for Amateur Radio. To sum it all up, we should have more of these nights.

That stark that was flying around Henry Beach last month apparently gets around because 4BO became the proud father of a baby daughter a couple of days ago. Although I have no particular as yet. Congratulations Macge and Huddle. 5LW is another one who would not listen to my advice about that 200 that tried to get down my chimney, and consequently it was attracted by his beam and passing to see if it was a ten or twenty metre beam the stark liked the look of the QTH, and is ever a long story short, 5LW became the father of a beautiful baby daughter, I sang him up to find out all the particulars and he said that the little darling's name was Becoya.

By the time these notes are getting ready for print, 5AL will be getting ready to say "yes." Best wishes to 5AL and Laurie, and what about a piece of wedding cake to put under my pillow so as I can dream of my past. You beautiful!

More months or so I'll sit a bit of a winge about the scarcity of Amateur news and how difficult it is to find as much as I'd like to write. Sorry for a few old relatives who send in some notes regularly, I am forced to write on my imagination quite a bit. Now what about it fellows, it is a lot easier to write facts than to think a lot of fiction, and even

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Angle Brackets ..	12½" long.	Cat. No. 623—7" Panel.
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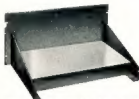
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Cat. No. 747—Pair of Tie-Bars.  
Cat. No. 748—Pair of Junction Pieces.  
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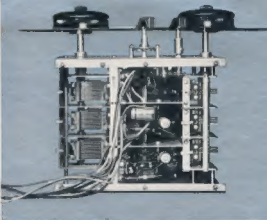
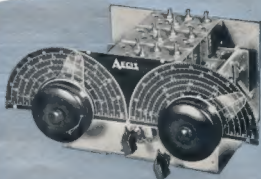
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